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To Improve the Soil and the Mind.

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Management of a Milk Dairy.

We made a few remarks in reply to an inquiry from a correspondent on this subject, in the last number of our paper for December 1855. As the milk dairy in our country, is an important interest to numbers of persons in the vicinity of our large towns and cities, we feel disposed to devote still further space to the discussion of its management and profits, as tending not only to the private gain of those engaged in it, but as having a bearing on the health and convenience of those who are obliged to depend on the out-of-town dairies for their supplies of this indispensable element of daily food.

That a considerable portion of the milk daily supplied to the people of our cities, is abominably bad, is no secret to tell. In frequent cases, this is the fault of the men who supply it, in their management of the cows that furnish it, and from the wretched, poisonous food on which the cows are kept—to wit, still slops. In other cases it is still the fault of the dairymen, from the careless and insufficient way in which the cows are sheltered and tended, and the negligence and dirtiness with which they treat the milk when obtained.

To the first charge we shall give only a passing notice, by remarking that a man who will coop up any number of cows in a filthy barrack of pens, and feed them on the diluted slops of a distillery, for the supply of *wholesome, pure* milk to families, is dishonest, and criminal in furnishing an article of food, poisonous, unhealthy, and every way bad. He should be handed over to the courts and grand juries for public prosecution, and among the "counts" of the indictment, should be that of "cruelty to animals."

In the second place, the fault is in going into the business without either capital or skill in his business. We have seen milk dairies where the cows were unsheltered; miserably poor from short food; intolerably filthy from neglect; and as a consequence, giving but small returns to their

owner; and the milk itself not fit for use; and, as a matter of course, the business given up after a short trial, because it *would not pay*.

Now—for we profess to know somewhat of the subject, from some years experience—we will show what a milk dairy *should be*, and how it ought to be managed, to produce *good* milk in abundant quantity, and to make it profitable for the proprietor.

In the first place, no one should engage in the business unless he have sufficient capital, not only to provide the number of *good* cows he can manage, but to construct or furnish the proper accommodations for them. The amount of capital will of course depend upon the number of cows he keeps, and the facilities he may have on hand for supplying with his own labor, and the labor of those in his employ, their subsistence.

THE BUILDINGS.

Were we to construct a *model* milk dairy establishment,—and such can be as cheaply done as an insufficient one, in the long run—we should begin by having a building with a row of stalls on each side of it, twelve feet wide at least—fourteen would be none too much—including the mangers, which should be two feet wide, and adjoin the center floor. The floor of these stables, on which the cows stand, should be raised for the width of seven feet back of the mangers, three inches above the floor in rear of the cows, so that all the stale and droppings from them, should pass off into a channel behind, and run off into a reservoir constructed for the purpose of holding it. This up-raised floor would always keep the cows dry and clean. They could be bedded with straw, which is the best, if that article could be obtained cheap and plenty. If not, other coarse litter, or saw dust, will answer, and the cows still be dry and warm. Between these stables should be a passage of twelve feet for wagon or cart loads of hay, roots, meal or other fodder, to pass in, and to allow hand-carts to draw the food from the cooking-room to the mangers. Overhead should be ample

storage for hay or corn fodder, while beneath, with occasional trap-doors to pass down and up, should be a deep well-walled cellar to receive all the roots, secure from frost, which are required for winter food. The stalls of the stable should be double, at least six feet and a half wide, with strong plank partitions between, and each cow secured to the *side* of her stall, and her manger portioned by itself, that she may be fed separately, and apart from another, as different cows require, at times, different food, in larger or smaller quantities, and different treatment, according to the condition they may be in, or the length of time they are from coming in, or to come in, or from her own peculiar habits or disposition—for all these have to do with the manner of their treatment and care. At one end of the building, or in the center, according to its extent, should be a room with a horse-power or steam engine, for propelling the machinery,—the latter we would adopt, if on a large scale. This machinery should prepare the food for the cows in winter, and, possibly, to a limited extent in summer. Adjoining the building should be a large yard or field—we would have *two* of them—one to five acres each, according to the number of the herd.

SUMMER MANAGEMENT.

We are to suppose that the dairyman lives in the country, or at least so far out of town that land can be had to grow all the *green* food for summer and winter forage, which the cows will require, and to get the thing into due course, we will commence with the spring when they are turned into grass. In the first place, grass for pasturage should be abundant. If not, the deficiency in pasturage must be made up in other food. It is needless to say that the cows should be supplied with abundance of pure water, at any and all times when they incline to drink it. Here let us remark, that the cow is not endowed with reason, like ourselves, to know that water may be taken in advance, when they *do not* need it, to supply them when they *do* need it; but she requires it when her appetite craves it. She may refuse drink at one hour, and the next hour may drink three pails-full. She should be tried three times a day in summer, and twice in winter, at least, when she cannot go to it when she chooses. This deficiency in pasturage may be supplied by moistened cut hay and meal; by roots; or by green-cut grass or green corn-stalks. And this deficiency of pasturage *should* be supplied continuously throughout the grazing season, to give the cow all she requires to eat for the full flow of milk that you expect to get from her, and to make that milk a *perfectly healthy and good article*. During the warm season the cows should be driven to their stalls to be milked, for which each one has her own separate accommodation, and *always in the same place*. Here they can be fed their extra food. After milking they should be turned out into the yard for the night to enjoy the cool air, except in cold nights, or severe rains, when they should remain in the stable, at which time the stables should be thoroughly ventilated throughout the night. In the morning the same course of tying up and stabling should be pursued. There are two reasons for this tying-up process. The first is, that the cows are thus always manageable. The other is, it is the most convenient and the readiest way to do the work. Another thing in this matter of milking may be

added: every cow should, as far as possible, be milked by the same hand day after day. They thus get accustomed to the milker's hand, and if any one of them have any little trick or peculiarity of her own, the milker knows it, and how to manage her. After the frosts come in the fall, the cows should not be turned out to pasture till the frost dries off. Frozen food is bad for cows; besides, they do not like it, but spend their time in walking about, treading down and breaking it and measurably spoiling it for eating afterwards.

WINTER MANAGEMENT.

The cows should be taken off the pastures early, that is, before the grass becomes withered, dead and cold, by the severe frosts; for such grass, although it will do stock and growing cattle good service, *will not make milk*. Now comes in play the actual service of your machinery for preparing the stored food. We would not have winter rye, or fall-sowed oats, for either fall or spring feeding. It will not pay. The leaves of these green grains are watery, cold, and thin food. There is but little substance in them, for giving either flesh or milk. They may do for young stock, or sheep, but milch cows require heavy, solid, yet moist food, for keeping up their flesh and producing milk, as the analysis of milk shows it to be heavy in the elements of strongy heart, food.

The machinery of the feeding room should be, after the horse or steam power, a stout cutting-box, for cutting both hay and corn-stalks; a root cutter, or slicer; a crushing mill for coarse grains, *if you can get such*, in case a grain mill is not near you; and two large steaming tanks near your boiler, for steaming the cut food and roots. We would here remark, that if you have steam power for your machinery, the escaped steam from the engine may be used for cooking the food; if not, a boiler must be had for the purpose. A pipe from the boiler, or the escape pipe, may lead into the bottom of each vat, and for such purpose a perforated false bottom must be laid three or four inches above the proper bottom of the cooking vat, that the steam after being introduced, may find its way throughout the entire mass of food above. The top must also be covered by a close shutter, to prevent the escape of steam and more readily to do up the cooking. Into the vat we should first put a layer of cut hay or stalks; then a sprinkling of meal; then a scattering of roots, and a trifle of salt; then the hay or stalks, and so on repeatedly until the vat is two-thirds or three-fourths filled, and then the cover over all on the top of the vat. The feed will swell, and possibly fill the vat to the cover by the time the mass is sufficiently cooked. When done, let it cool down to blood warmth, and it is fit for feeding. The two vats are for cooking and feeding from alternately. When one is fed out, the other is ready for feeding, and the empty one may be refilled and cooked, as before. Two good feeds should be given to the cows each day, morning and night; and an hour or two after each cooked meal, what dry hay or stalks they want, to *stay their stomachs*. But an occasional change may be necessary. The dairyman's observation and judgment must look to this. A feed of raw roots, or dry meal, may be necessary; (*raw* roots are cold, watery feed for milch cows, and much better *cooked*;) but in general, the cooked food will be most palatable, and better relished by the

cow, as it will certainly produce the most milk. Let the water she drinks be *warm* also, if possible to make it warm without too great cost, *as warm as she will drink it*. Heat must be kept up in her stomach and body, and all the *cold* water she drinks must consume a certain amount of valuable food, to supply the carbon in her system to reduce it to its proper temperature, as *cold* water, or cold food, does not act *nutritiously* in the stomach, until so warmed and prepared. During the stabling season the cows should be let out of the stable every day for a little exercise. Cows must have daily exercise, or they suffer in health. If they stay out an hour or two in moderate weather, it will not hurt them, particularly if you have a large rack filled with straw in the yard for them to munch at—for they will eat straw now and then, as a change, although the straw will do them little good as a *nutriment*—but it is a *change*—and cattle like a change now and then, as well as people do, and it does them good. The water may also be in the yard, or under a shed, if more convenient than to have it in the building. In this way, everything the cow eats or drinks is prepared, the moment it enters her stomach, to do its office in supporting life, and producing flesh and milk. There is then no preparatory *animal* process of warming and assimilating the food for digestion, but the digestive powers go right at work and grind up the pabulum, for supporting the vital and lacteal systems. We have no doubt that this method of preparation of food, will increase the production of milk over that of unprepared, cold, and raw food, as three to two, and in some cases, as two to one. *Let your stables be well ventilated, that the cows may breathe pure air.*

QUALITY OF FOOD.

Every article of food should be of the *best* quality. The hay, whether clover,—and we would not have *much* of that—timothy or redtop, should be cut when “in the blow.” The stalks should be cut when in the milk. If green Indian corn is cut up for winter food, it should be thoroughly cured, sweet and good. The meal should be of Indian corn, oats, rye, barley, or buckwheat—and ground fine; and all these should be mixed, if you have them. Corn meal, solely, is too heavy and heating; barley is next so; rye next to that; then buckwheat; and lastly, oats. We would not use over one-fourth of corn meal to three-fourths oat. The common offal of the flouring mills, such as middlings, ship stuff, shorts and bran, are almost worthless, for in the improved machinery of the present day, every particle of flour is taken out, and little or nothing but the bare hull of the wheat is left, an article but little better than basswood saw-dust. Years ago, mill feed was good for something; but not so now.

THE PRODUCTION OF FODDER.

This we cannot direct in detail. Much depends on your situation, the value of land, the price of labor, and other things best known to the dairyman himself. We take it he has brains enough to understand his business in that particular. We know that with properly husbanding his manures, he must have a large quantity on hand with which he can grow crops of hay, roots and grain. His men and boys who milk and care for the cows, will have spare time to work in the fields, and they can do much in growing them.

The women, besides cleaning and preparing the cans for the milk, can assist in milking the cows. In fact, a milk dairy is a business of itself, as much as a-work shop, a factory, or a farm, and must be *the business* of the place, wherever it is carried on to advantage; and at prices of three cents a quart in summer, and four cents in winter, in the neighborhood of our large towns and cities, the business is a good one. The dairyman should produce all he can within himself, and if prices are not too high, he can buy the balance. But, let him be afraid of this: the *starvation* or the *pinching* system *will not do, nor will it pay*. His milk will be inferior, and his customers will find it out; and a well fed dairy will always have the preference of customers over a starved one.

THE SUPPLY OF COWS.

This is a branch of the business so entirely dependent on the locality of the dairyman, and other circumstances connected with his business, that we can give no specific directions regarding it. When he can go out at any time within the circuit of a few miles, and buy more or less new milch cows to supply a deficiency in his dairy, he will do well to keep his cows from the bull, milk them until they cease to give six quarts a day—and such may not be the case until two or three years after calving—and then turn them off to the butcher, as, with the treatment above described, they will be fit for beef. If he cannot do this—that is, get his cows just at the times he wants them, and does not raise any calves—he may keep the *smallest, runtiest* bull he can find—anything in fact, that will get a calf, for the smaller the calf the better for the cow, so that it be a calf, (such a little runt of a thing will draw less on the milking qualities of the cow when in fetus than a larger one,) and put his cows to the bull. In such case, once in eighteen months, or two years, will be often enough to let the cow breed, if she will give milk that long. But she should not give milk for full two months previous to calving. The animal system requires some rest. We have known a cow give milk for four or five years after calving, without going to the bull, or showing a desire to do so—and a good mess too—eight or ten quarts a day. Cows may be spayed, too, just after calving, and continue in milk several years afterward. But of one thing we can assure the dairyman; buying milch cows from *drovers* is a very uncertain business, as we have always found, when men sell their milch cows to a drover, they usually select their poorest milkers, or those with some shabby, malicious trick about them, that spoils them for their own use. If we were in the milk business, on a farm of sufficient size, we would raise our own cows, by keeping a bull of good milking blood, and saving the best heifer calves from our best milking cows. That *we know* to be a *certain* way. We have bred heifers especially for the dairy for a series of years, and scarce ever had a failure in producing the very best cows, possessing every desirable virtue which a first quality milking cow may comprise.

In addition to all the above enumerations, let the strictest economy, system, neatness, and punctuality in time and place, rule every movement throughout.

Bed Curtains are unhealthy, because they confine the air around us while we are asleep.

Shortening-in the Peach Tree.

We have, for many years, favored the shortening-in of the peach tree. There appears to be everything for it, and nothing against it except the labor. The following reasons favor the operation:

1. Preserving the tree in a handsome, compact form.
2. Limiting the space occupied, so that more trees may be planted on an acre.
3. Increasing the thriftiness of the tree and its shoots, and, as a consequence, increasing the size and flavor of the fruit, like that on young trees.
4. Thinning the fruit by the most convenient and economical process.

It is not uncommon to see old, neglected, and unpruned trees, extending their long and nearly leafless branches to a distance of ten feet on each side of the tree, the fruit being borne on the extreme ends of these poles, and being much less in quantity, smaller in size, and incomparably poorer in quality, than crops on young and much smaller trees, or on those kept in proper form by pruning. Good cultivators find thinning necessary for attaining a high flavor in their fruit; crowded crops cannot become perfect. But to go over the tree and pick off the surplus peaches, is a slow and laborious process, while by pruning, it may be accomplished in about one-tenth of the time, and at the leisure season of winter.

We have, however, discarded the mode at first recommended, of cutting back each individual one year's shoot; this is too slow and minute. The substitute adopted is to cut off and *thin back* two or three years' growth, or more if the form of the tree requires it, always cutting where another limb branches off, so as not to leave a stump. Care is taken to avoid the error, sometimes committed, of cutting all back of an equal length, like shearing a hedge, which causes a thick outside growth, excluding the light from the interior of the tree. It will be understood, that in connection with the pruning here recommended, the trees should receive good cultivation at all times, or the success will be imperfect.

We have been induced to offer these hints at the present time, in consequence of having recently seen in a work of some pretensions, an attempt to discourage the practice.

Vinery and Plant House.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I contemplate building a cheap vinery and plant house, and wish to know what kinds of vines and plants can be most successfully cultivated in a house, as contemplated on page 368 of the Cultivator for 1855, in this latitude, about 41°. Where can the plants and vines be obtained? Do I need the house the first year after planting out the vines, and can the peach be cultivated in that way to advantage? Can it be dwarfed to advantage? If so, on what and how, and at what season would it ripen fruit? DAVID J. BEARDSLEY. *Freedom.*

The kinds of vines likely to suit you, are Black Hamburgh, Chasselas Fontainbleau, Malvasia, Grizzly Frontignan, and Black Prince. If for market only, take the two first.

All ordinary green-house plants can be successfully cultivated in those houses, irrespective of latitude, providing the proper temperature is maintained by means

of fire heat. One thing, however, the plant-house would be all the better with shutters over a part of the glass at night, especially if at all exposed to cold winds; the extra expense being more than compensated, by saving of fuel and the well-being of the plants. For buying the plants, you had better depend on the green-houses nearest you, except it may be choice or new kinds, for the sake of the carriage. Any respectable nurseryman will supply you the vines. It is out of the province of this paper to recommend particular firms.

The foreign grape *does not do well* in the open air in this country, hence you will require the house from the first planting of the vines. The building should in all cases precede the planting.

The peach does not require dwarfing in the true acceptation of the word, being trained from a maiden plant, on wires under the glass, or on the back wall, as you would the grape vine. The size the tree grows to being regulated to the space it is designed to occupy, by disbudding principally, and by pruning. The peach is successfully cultivated under glass, in this country, although the perfection at which they arrive in the open air, will ever prevent them occupying any important position, other than as the hobby of private families of means. The season at which it would ripen its fruit without any fire heat, would be from four to six weeks earlier than out of doors—earlier if started in the spring by fire heat. E. S.

Large Holes for Young Trees.

Large holes are often recommended for planting young trees—is there any way to get at these advantages without the cost and labor of digging them by hand? A READER.

A great deal of labor now performed by hand may be accomplished by the strength of horses, and digging large holes for trees among the rest. We suppose our correspondent wishes to set out *many* trees, as the labor of digging but a few holes, would be small. Large holes, properly filled, will give young trees a powerful impetus, which they will preserve for several years, till the more remote portions of the ground may be subsoiled, manured, and prepared for the further extension of the roots of the trees, after they reach the boundary of the holes. The following mode of doing the work by horse-labor may be advantageously adopted for large orchards:

After the land is prepared as for common farm crops, by such manuring as may be afforded conveniently, and by as deep a plowing as a single team will give with a common plow, proceed to measure off the distances of each row, and mark the places by stakes. Then begin by plowing a small "*land*" about six feet wide, so as to leave the dead furrow where each row of trees is to stand. Repeat the plowing on the same piece of ground several times, until the earth is thrown out down into the subsoil to a depth of about two feet. Then mark the places, by stakes, where each row crosses these at right angles, or in other words where each tree is to be placed. Deposit near each crossing, half a cubic yard of compost or old manure, throwing a portion of it about the place where the tree is to stand. Then proceed to plow the earth back again, one man being employed at the same time to pass along the row and to scatter the compost gradually and successively over a space of six by eight feet about the place for each tree, while the plowing is going on. In this way, a bed of rich, deep, mellow earth, formed of thoroughly intermixed soil and compost, over a space six feet by eight, is made at the place for every tree. An excavation large enough for the reception of the roots, is quickly made in this mellow bed of soil, and the tree planted by placing the unmanured and adjacent top soil next the roots. This mode of planting

will be decidedly better than in holes dug by hand, for these strips of land being plowed down the natural slope of the land, as they always should be, form a channel in the subsoil through which any surplus water, (which would otherwise stagnate in the dug hole,) may easily sink away, and not remain about the roots to injure the growth, as all stagnant water does in a most serious degree. This is especially the case with holes dug in hard clay subsoils, which hold water like a tub.

Roots Cannot Grow without Leaves.

It is a well-known and well-settled principle in vegetable physiology, that no part of a plant can grow, without the assistance derived from the leaf, which decomposes and re-arranges the crude materials of the food of plants, and thus forms new wood.

For this reason, a very simple and easy way to kill a patch of Canada thistles or any other weed whose roots spread wide and extend deeply into the soil, is by keeping the tops cut off or the leaves smothered, so that no food can be furnished to the roots below. A few months of starvation in summer will destroy the plants.

For the same reason, clover or any other plants, will extend the growth of their roots more rapidly and freely if a larger top is permitted above ground than if closely pastured.

The following statement, not wholly new, from a source that we cannot at this moment give, is a further corroboration. The "curious circumstance" mentioned, exists the same with any other plant, as with clover:

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT.—A curious circumstance connected with the growth of clover is, that by cutting the clover twice and removing all the hay, a much better wheat crop is obtained than by feeding it off by sheep, even if some artificial food is used. This is owing to the fact that the growth of the roots of clover in the land is in exact proportion to the growth of the leaves in the air. Each leaflet that shoots upward sends a radicle or root downward. *If the leaflet be bitten off or destroyed, its radicle ceases to grow.* It therefore follows that grazing clover by sheep materially diminishes the amount of vegetable matter accumulated in the soil by the roots, and consequently the produce of the succeeding crop.

The above is sustained by the following:

"A friend of mine in Northamptonshire had a field of clover; it was divided into two portions; both were cut at midsummer, and one part was then fed off with sheep, and the other left to grow till September, when it was again cut and the hay removed. Equal portions of the several pieces were then compared. Where the clover had been cut once and fed off, he got 35 cwt. of clover roots per acre. Where he cut twice, he got 75 cwt.; there being a difference of two tons of vegetable matter per acre.

Crop of Potatoes, by J. S. W.

One and one fourth acres. Land stocked with timothy and clover; mowed one year, and then winter killed. Planted April 25—27, with Early June potatoes—part large and part small; mostly the latter. Planted in drills 3 feet apart, manured in the drills, and covered with small plow. Plowed and hoed three times, and top-dressed twice with ashes and gypsum, sifted carefully on the tops when wet.

Yield, 270 bushels, or 216 bushels per acre.

The difference in results from large and small seed, was manifest. Two rows, planted with large seed uncut, gave 12 bushels, 10½ of which were of good size. Two rows adjoining, planted with small seed, gave 8 bushels, 6 of which were of good size. By small seed is meant not very small, but such as farmers are much in the habit of planting. *New Britain, Conn.*

Improved Crops of Potatoes.

MESSERS. EDITORS.—A few years ago Mr. E. C. ROBERTS, of Michigan, sold certain directions to secure improved crops of potatoes, both in his own state and elsewhere, charging as much for each copy of them as you charge for all the information, facts, advice and discoveries which you crowd into two volumes or years of your monthly journal. Notwithstanding the unusual and somewhat objectionable mode adopted in contributing his mite to the great treasury or common stock of useful knowledge, it was very generally acknowledged by those who had paid their dollar to Mr. R. or some of his agents, that the information was well worth all that it had cost them. We have heard such testimony from the lips of several, and have heard of satisfactory results from following Mr. R.'s directions in several cases beyond our own sphere of acquaintance. It gave us sincere pleasure to learn that an improvement in potato culture had been really discovered, as also that our neighbors who had paid pretty roundly for one small item of information, had not been imposed upon; but we had some thoughts which we leave you and your readers to guess at, when a young farmer always rather scant of cash, and who had never spent a dollar in his life upon any of the productions of the press, agricultural books and papers being more especially unworthy of his attention—we had certain queer thoughts, we say, when this young man told us that he was well satisfied with the information he had got for his dollar, as he thought his crop of potatoes better by a good many times that sum.

But we took pen in hand, not to run on at this rate, nor to inform the readers of, or rather, subscribers to *The Cultivator* of last year, that they got these directions for the sixth-hundredth part of a dollar, as they occupied but a single column or about the eight-hundredth part of the volume for 1855, which cost them only fifty cents. To inform your readers of this fact, important though it be as throwing light upon the comparative cost of different ways of obtaining knowledge, was not so much our purpose, as to state that evidences of the utility of Mr. ROBERTS' mode of management have been increasing every year since his "secret" was made known. The general testimony of those who have tried this method is, that it produces crops of potatoes unusually free from disease, and of a superior quality for culinary purposes.

Among the many testimonials of this kind which might be gathered from individuals, and from agricultural clubs or societies, there is one which has found its way into the Patent Office Report for 1854, and may be found on page 164. Without any mention of Mr. ROBERTS' name or any allusion to him whatever, a citizen of Michigan has given Mr. ROBERTS' theory and directions almost in his own words, and vouched for the method, if continued a few years, causing the rot to disappear, and the crop to increase from 25 to 100 per cent. This *indirect* testimony is of value; but it is surprising that any one should so bare-facedly claim Mr. R.'s discovery as his own!!

Those who wish to know what Mr. ROBERTS' method is, will find the article we have referred to in *Cultivator* of May, 1855, or in the *Country Gentleman* of April 12, 1855. A MICHIGAN FARMER.

Remedy for Hoove in Cattle.

Some two months since my cow got into the barn and eat too freely of apples, causing her to swell terribly, so much so as to endanger her life. Having heard it said that *nux vomica* was a specific, I dissolved about half a tea-spoonful of the globules in about a pint of rain water, and poured it down her throat. The relief was literally instantaneous, and in a few minutes she was apparently as well as ever. D. W. Auburn.

Gas Tar and Blue Vitriol for Preserving Wood.

MESSRS. TUCKER & SON—I noticed in your journal of Jan. 10, an inquiry in relation to the properties of "coal tar," as a preservative of wood, fences, posts, &c. Although my experience in the use of this article has been quite limited, yet from what I have seen of its use, I am prepared to say that it will add very materially to the durability of wood when properly applied.

I have in the grounds around my house, quite a number of frames or racks for roses, vines and shrubbery, mostly made of pine. These, before I used this bituminous tar, were continually rotting, creating considerable trouble and expense in keeping them up. I resolved at length to try the efficacy of this tar. I got some new frames made, and with a brush I gave the lower ends of the frames three good heavy coats, extending up the posts some eight or ten inches above where the ground would touch them. When they were quite dry, I put them in their respective places, and there they now stand firmly, and as far as I can discover are sound, and wholly unaffected by the weather. A sufficient time has now elapsed to satisfy me of the utility of this paint, and of its protective properties upon wood.

I have also used this tar upon the wooden gutters of my house, and upon the iron railing or fence that encloses my grounds, and although my fence is of wrought iron, the most difficult to protect against the action of the weather, yet I have found it to answer every purpose in the way of protection, and I am now satisfied that it is equal if not superior to the ordinary oil paint. It leaves when dry, (which only requires but a few hours,) a beautiful gloss equal to the best copal varnish. Its cheapness is another reason why it should be more used. I do not know what it can be had for in the east, but in our city we can purchase it at from \$2 to \$3 dollars per barrel. Our houses are lighted with gas made from the coal of our hills, which is inexhaustible, and known as Bituminous Coal. The tar made from the Cannel or Anthracite coal of the east, may possibly differ in some respects from ours, but should think the difference very little if any, both possessing the same general properties.

While on this subject, permit me to relate to your readers a few facts connected with the preservation of wood by copper, that came under my observation in the spring and summer of 1851. Several railroads at that time were about to make their termini in the city of Wheeling, and it became necessary on the part of the city to provide them with suitable depots; and as an old grave-yard occupied a site thought to be the most eligible for the Hempfield depot, our City Council by ordinance set it apart for this purpose. This old cemetery contained the remains of about four thousand human beings. These remains of course had to be removed to other grounds, and it so happened that it was made my duty to superintend their removal. In the prosecution of this work, one fact was disclosed, which, if not known before, I beg to give publicity through the columns of your paper. It was very common, some 40 or 50 years ago, to ornament the coffins of the dead with a row or two of brass nails upon the edge, and the initial of the deceased upon the lid of the coffin—also upon the ends to fix brass handles not unlike in shape and size the old fashioned handles of trunks. By these handles the dead were conveyed to their final resting place. Wherever these nails or handles were used upon the coffins, the wood in contact with them was in a perfect state of preservation, as hard and firm nearly as when the coffins were first made. In some graves, where the interments were of many years standing, the coffins as well as the bones were nearly or entirely gone—not even the black dust of the decomposed bodies or coffins were left, all having been washed

away by the rains of many years, percolating through the coarse gravelly soil of this old cemetery. The only relics left in some cases, were the teeth and small portions of the hard bones, and those specimens of preserved wood with the nails and handles adhering. These samples of brass and wood, I still have in my possession for the inspection of the scientific and curious. No doubt, therefore, is left on my mind, that copper, for this is the principal ingredient in brass, possesses properties that render wood almost indestructible. Other metals have been used for this purpose, but on account of their cost have been laid aside. This objection cannot be urged against this metal. The sulphate of copper, the common blue vitriol of our shops, can be had in the eastern cities for a few cents a pound. A vat or cistern could easily, and at a very small expense, be constructed, in which a suitable quantity of the salt could be dissolved in water, into which the timber or posts could be placed, and then suffered to remain until they were sufficiently saturated, when they could be removed, and give place for more. The strength of this fluid would of course have to be ascertained by experiment, which could easily be done.

In this matter, I have simply stated what came under my observation. The facts disclosed, I think are sufficient to induce a further investigation of this subject. That copper does possess some elements in its composition, while in an oxidizing or corroding state, that will preserve wood, is to me most clearly apparent. These brass nails and handles were quite green upon their surface, gradually undergoing such change as would render them soluble in the moisture of the earth, and in that way would readily be absorbed by the wood in contact. A. S. TODD. *Wheeling, Va.*

In the *Country Gentleman*, vol. 3, p. 311, we published the following statement, which was properly vouched for to us, by a gentleman familiar with the facts stated. We should be glad to know if any of our readers have tried the experiment here recommended:

A gentleman residing in Windsor, Vt., has introduced into that region a method of fencing, which for cheapness or durability and efficiency, can hardly be surpassed. He procures stakes of a suitable wood, five feet in length, and steeps the lower portion of them in blue vitriol—one pound of vitriol to forty of water. This renders them almost indestructible by the natural process of decay. He then drives the stakes into the ground at a distance of eight inches apart, bringing the tops into a straight line, and nailing upon them a narrow strip of board, using one nail for each stake. It is said that cattle and sheep can't get through it, horses will not jump it, hogs will go a good distance round rather than climb over it, and a lazy man can't sit in the shade of it.

Land Reclaimed by Drainage.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I have a small place of thirty-five acres, which I have owned six years. Before I bought, it was said to have been very badly managed, and I have no reason to doubt it, as that part which had been cultivated was well worn down by shallow plowing, constant cropping, with little or no manure, and the balance being densely covered with a growth of brush and briars, with a large quantity of spring and stagnant water, which forbid its being cultivated until it was thoroughly underdrained. It was also blessed with a prolific crop of stone, so great that many thought I never should be able to exhaust them; but I have entirely cleared them by digging and blasting, and converting them to stone fences, with a larger portion to underdraining. Now that part which was entirely worthless, has become the most valuable and productive land I have, yielding at least three tons of hay per acre. A. HAWKINS. *Westchester.*

River Mud as a Fertilizer.

To the Editors of the Country Gentleman—I noticed in your paper an inquiry by N. Dustin, about the value of mud as a fertilizer. I reside on one of the numerous creeks that empty their waters into the river Delaware, and having large deposits of mud on the farm, I have been experimenting with it for several years, and have satisfied myself it is valuable as a manure or fertilizer. A part of the soil upon which I have used it is sandy, the balance is a light loam. I have used it composted with barn-yard manure, horse dung and lime, and as a top-dressing with lime for grass lands. I believe its value depends much upon its preparation and application, and that it should be thrown out and exposed to the action of the frosts and air, by which it will become thoroughly pulverized, and in all cases should be mixed or spread with lime.

In composting it I haul out the barn-yard manure and dump it in a heap so as to drive on it and dump the mud on top, and on top of it again I put a coat of lime. I think it is not necessary to put much lime with it when used in this way—only sufficient to correct acidity. Previous to using it I generally turn the heaps once or twice.

In top-dressing with it, I haul the mud out on the field and dump it, a load in a place, about two rods apart each way, in time to let the frost operate on it, and either put the lime on the loads or spread it broadcast. After the mud has been pulverized by the frosts, and about the time the grass starts in the spring, spread it from the heaps.

I have one field of about six acres, treated in this way, which has produced a very heavy crop this season. I have not the account at hand, but will send it you with a statement of the manner of cultivation at some future day.

On the opposite side of the creek, is a farm of drifting sand, a portion of which, about fifty years ago, received a heavy coat of this mud from the banks of the creek, and at this time stakes are entirely unnecessary to indicate its exact boundary, so distinctly is the effect visible.

From my own experience, and the information I could get from others who have experimented with it, I am satisfied that the benefits resulting from the use of it are immediate and permanent; but in regard to the extent of its value, I am still undecided, but think at no distant day it will be classed among our most valuable fertilizers. J. M. TROTH. Camden Co., N. J.

P. S. I do not know what effect it would have on heavy clay lands, but believe it would be beneficial even on them.

Manures for Peach Trees.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I would ask the following information through the Cultivator: Which would be the best fertilizer for growing a Peach Orchard at its commencement of bearing, guano, bone dust, ground bones, poudrette, or phosphate of lime, the soil being limed fifty bushels per acre? Also the best fertilizer for growing a peach nursery? GEO. H. LARISON. Saratoga, N. J.

Bone dust or ground bones, and phosphate of lime, being nearly the same thing, and forming what is strictly termed a *special* manure, require *actual trial*, to determine their efficiency, in the several districts of country where their use is proposed. They *might* be found of value to peach trees, but more probably they would be of little use. Guano, being a compound manure, or more nearly resembling in its character common stable manure, gives much better promise of success; and poudrette, if good, still more so. The latter, of course, is to be applied in much larger quantity than the guano, which is highly concentrated.

Charcoal as a Fertilizer.

For two years past I have used some fifty loads each season of refuse charcoal, and being fully convinced that it pays, I wish to recommend it to my brother farmers. I have tried it on grass, corn and potatoes—have tried it alone, and in the compost heap, and in all situations it has proved faithful to its trust. As a top dressing for grass, it gives a green color and luxuriant growth. Applied to half an acre of early potatoes the last summer, the yield was 75 bushels of as fine healthy potatoes as could be desired, that sold readily for one dollar per bushel, and yielded the best profit of any thing raised on the farm.

The virtue of charcoal mainly consists in its absorbing power. The purity of the air around a charcoal pit has long been known, and the colliers, notwithstanding their smutty appearance, are robust men. The secret of this purity of the air and the health of the colliers, lies in the fact that charcoal absorbs from the air the ammonia and other noxious gasses, unsuited for our lungs, but just the food for plants. Every good housekeeper knows that if her boiling meat gives forth an unsavory odor, a piece of fresh charcoal put into the pot will not only sweeten the air, but will remedy the taint of the meat. In the same manner it acts when applied to the land. It absorbs from the air those gasses offensive to our nostrils, but the main food of plants. And this it will do, not once only, or for one season, but very possibly for a century. Where an old coal-pit has been burnt, the land never seems to wear out, and the first settlers point to the coal bottoms that are fifty years old, still by their exuberant vegetation marking well the spot where the wood was converted into coal. A fertilizer so lasting is well worth some expense at the outset. But where can we get it, some may ask. If any charcoal pits are burned in your vicinity, the bottoms will furnish three or four loads each of refuse charcoal, mingled with burnt soil. The latter is highly valued also as an absorbent. Around furnaces and blacksmith shops, the waste charcoal also accumulates, and in many instances may be had for the carting. It may be found also around engine houses, thrown out from locomotives. If none of these resources are at hand, then use the best substitute possible, which is muck, or swamp mud, and double the manure heap by composting, and if the crops are not doubled, then my experience is vain. BERKSHIRE.

Training Colts.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I noticed in a late No. of the Country Gentleman, the "advice and practice" of Mr. James O. Miller, Jr., of Montgomery, N. Y., in training colts. I think with him, that a colt ought to be rendered as docile as possible at an early age, but I do not agree with him as to the best time and manner of effecting this object. I am of the opinion, that the best time to commence "halter-breaking a colt," is as soon as it is fairly on its legs; and by the time it is a week or fortnight old it should be thoroughly "halter-broke." It can be effected with little time and little strength, and without the aid of "a good whip." I think it unwise ever to tie a colt "to a tree or post, with his heels near a small pond or brook," and frighten him "with a splash in the water," when his halter gives way; and I also think it unwise to tie him to a post, or any other thing, which will not give, "and let him pull himself down." There is great risk in this operation, the colt may break its neck, or, otherwise, seriously injure himself, and the risk would not be diminished by "flogging him roundly till he gets up, and repeat until cured." Mr. Miller's method of "training colts" seems to suit him, but it finds no favor with me. A FARMER. Oswego.

Feeding Sheep on Daisies.

MESSRS. EDITORS—A well written communication from H. J. Canfield, on the cultivation, usefulness, and destruction of daisies, in your last vol., p. 157, is so at variance with what my experience has taught me, of this most pernicious of plants that the farmer has to contend with, that I cannot refrain from writing a few words, though it is the first time in my life I ever attempted to write for an agricultural journal. He says: "There is no herb which can be placed before sheep, of which they are more fond than of the daisy. Their great regard for this plant can be made use of as a means of destroying them." That "no herb can be placed before sheep which they are more fond of," is certainly news to me, and if true certainly worth knowing.

I will travel all the way to Cape Cod, to see a sheep so much of a fool as to leave good timothy, red or white clover, or any other good grasses, to eat daisies. I should entertain very different feelings towards such sheep, from those expressed by the late John Randolph towards sheep in general. That a sheep will live on daisies, I very well know, from seeing it thoroughly tried by a neighbor, to his loss of at least a thousand dollars. And so will they live on catnip, Mayweed, tansy, wormwood, or pennyroyal. But that a sheep can be made to grow one pound from spring to fall, on either, is what I cannot believe; and Mr. Canfield had better direct his communications to the marines, instead of farmers. I have no doubt he is a much better sailor than farmer.

Now, if Mr. C., or any other "Cape Cod farmer who considers daisy-hay worth 33 per cent. more than the best of timothy and clover hay," will take the trouble to weigh one hundred sheep, and put them on daisy pasture where there is nothing else—if good fat sheep in the spring—and weigh them again in the fall, he will find they have lost from ten to fifteen pounds each—whereas such sheep, put in good pasture, will increase from fifteen to twenty pounds each, making a difference of at least thirty pounds, which is all meat and tallow, and at present prices is worth at least five cents a pound, which would make a difference of \$1.50 per head.

I know how to make sheep destroy briars and common brush on a farm. By throwing salt on them when there is a heavy dew, or the leaves are wet with rain, the sheep will destroy them though there is good feed in the field. And I know how to make sheep weed a potato field, without eating the tops—that is, fine-wooled sheep. Put them in the field after the dew falls, and take them out before it is off in the morning, and they will eat the grass, and the weeds excepting daisies, and leave the tops, and will eat them if starved to it.

My neighbor of whom I spoke, tried killing daisies with sheep to his heart's content, by putting a flock on sixteen acres, and keeping them there until they were nearly starved, though plenty of daisies in the field, and then changed them and put others on, and those that had been on the daisy field, in good pasture, and so kept changing every week thereafter, keeping 500 head on the daisy pasture all summer, so that he lost the entire growth of a thousand sheep, which went into the winter weak and poor, and had to be nursed all winter. Instead of being fat, strong, and ready to stand the severe winter, they were just fit to be blown away by a north-wester. It is true he killed the most of the daisies on sixteen acres of land, at an expense of more than \$1000, to say nothing of the inhuman cruelty of starving poor dumb brutes, where there were daisies in great abundance; and the only excuse or apology I ever heard him make for his great loss and

cruelty, was that he was young and inexperienced, and it was recommended by a man pretending to know how to kill daisies. He could not be caught so again, as he is a man now that thinks for himself.

Mr. C. says: "They may be raised in Eastern Maryland or Virginia for sheep pasture, where ordinary grasses cannot be produced." I never go to Eastern Maryland or Virginia in a dry season, when their grass is dried up, and see their cattle and sheep feeding on daisies, and hear their bleating and lowing in the field, but what I think of my neighbor's poor starved sheep, and their cattle look like the breed they had in old times, that they could salt in their horns.

I think I know how to kill daisies, though it requires work by plowing them up and planting to corn—cultivate and hoe, not leaving one to tell the tale. Summer fallow the next season by plowing and cultivating every week through the season. After the wheat or rye comes off, plow and cultivate until the frost prevents. Plant again in the spring, to corn or potatoes—cultivate and hoe every week, and the daisies will be effectually disposed of, and your ground in good condition to seed down with a spring crop, if good rich land, and if not make it so by putting on manure if you have it—if not, sow two crops of buckwheat a year, and plow them in before there is any seed on the daisies. Continue that for three years, and you will have not only disposed of your daisies, but have rich land that will grow something that sheep will like better than daisies. And if you live where buckwheat will not grow, nor anything else to renovate your land, if you desire to live by farming, leave it, and go where you can raise something for man and beast to feed on, that is not more bitter than lager beer. A POOR OLD FARMER.

Soaking Seeds in Tobacco Water, &c.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I noticed the inquiry of C. G. in a late No., in regard to soaking seeds in tobacco water as a preventive of the depredations of the cut worm, &c. About three years ago I gave the tobacco water cure a fair trial on corn. The seed for part of a field, afterwards reported in *The Cultivator*, was soaked from six to twenty-four hours in a strong decoction of tobacco, without at all injuring its vitality, or in the least interfering with the operations of the cut worm. It was planted on sod ground, plowed late the fall before planting, but spite of fall plowing and tobacco, the worms made sad havoc. By the side of it was planted corn in its natural state, but no difference could be seen. After the corn had been in the ground two days, in which time there had been some rain, I dug up some of it, and no taste of tobacco could be perceived in the kernels, whereas when planted they would have answered an old chewer's purpose nearly as well as the weed itself.

"Observer" has some very just remarks in regard to the quality of hay the past summer, and indicates our duty in view of the fact, for fact it is. He says in many cases it has "caused slaving in both horses, oxen and cows." "The cause is thought by some to be the flashiness of the grass when cut for hay, in consequence of the excessive rains of last spring and summer." Now if this be the true cause, we are ever liable, nay almost certain to have a frequent recurrence of the evil. But this appears to me not to be the cause, else we should all have slaving horses and herds, for the effect must be co-extensive with the cause. It is well known that horses running in a pasture where there is plenty of *lobelia*, or Indian tobacco as sometimes called, will slaver profusely. Will it not have the same effect when cut and cured with the hay if it is in any considerable quantity? Is it not attributable to the presence of some herb in the hay, that stimulates the glands to the secretion of an undue quantity of saliva? VERMONT.

Preparing Soil for Gardens.

There are several reasons why the soils of gardens should be made better than for ordinary farm crops. 1. Most of the products of gardens are of a succulent nature, or will otherwise bear high feeding, such as garden roots in general, plants whose leaves furnish food, as lettuce, cabbages, &c., or those which produce large and succulent fruits, as cucumbers, melons, squashes, &c. 2. As nearly all garden crops are the immediate food of man, while many farm crops are only the coarser food of animals, greater care and skill may properly be applied in bringing the former forward to a high degree of perfection. 3. The great amount of family supplies which may be obtained from a half-acre garden, provided the best soil is prepared for their growth, renders it a matter of equal importance and economy, to give the soil the very best preparation.

It rarely happens that there is much selection to be made in soils as we find them in nature, for gardening purposes, unless particular attention is given to the subject in choosing a site for a new dwelling. Generally, we have to take the land as we find it. Unless, therefore, we happen to find it just right, we should endeavor to improve it in the best manner. The principal means for making a perfect garden soil, are *draining*, *trenching* and *manuring*.

Now, lest any one should be startled at the outset, with the *fear of cost*, in thus preparing the soil, we may remark that the entire expense of preparing half an acre, (which would constitute a large kitchen garden,) would not in general, amount to more than the amount saved in a single year in the purchase of food for family supplies, by the fine and abundant vegetables afforded. If the owner cannot possibly prepare his half or quarter acre of land properly, then we would earnestly request him to occupy the ground with something else than garden crops, and to take only a single square rod, (if he cannot attend to more,) and give this the most perfect preparation. A square rod of rich, luxuriant vegetables, will be found more valuable than eighty rods or half an acre of scant, dwarfed, and stringy growth, which no one will wish to eat; while the extra cost and labor spent on the eighty rods in seeds, digging and hoeing, would have been more than sufficient to prepare the smaller plot in the most complete manner.

Let the determination be made, therefore, at the commencement, to take no more land than can be properly prepared, and in the most *thorough manner*.

1. *Draining*. A few soils do not require draining, but with most it will be indispensable. Where the subsoil is gravelly or porous, so that any amount of extra surface-water will be immediately discharged below, the operation is not needed; but in all cases where, in digging a hole two feet deep, the water is found to stand in its bottom during the wettest times, we may be sure that draining will be of great importance, in preventing a cold, sour subsoil, and stagnant water beneath its surface. Such a condition of the soil could not fail to prove exceedingly detrimental to good growth, and drains not more than thirty feet apart should be made as the first indispensable requisite. No one who has never given drain-

ing a full and fair trial, can appreciate its importance. It often happens that the soil may be worked and planted from two to four weeks earlier in spring—a most important advantage for *early* vegetables, where a few days of accelerated maturity are so highly valued. Scarcely less, is the benefit during the rest of the season, in preventing a hard and baked soil in times of drouth.

2. *Trenching*. A surface soil of a few inches only, will not answer for a good garden. The roots of succulent vegetables must extend into a deeper bed of fertility; and a greater depth of pulverization is required to absorb surplus rains, and to give off the accumulated moisture in dry weather. A shallow soil will become deluged by a single shower, because the hard subsoil will not allow it to pass downward; and again, in the heat and drouth of midsummer, a thin stratum is made dry and parched in a week, while one of greater depth becomes scarcely affected. We might cite numerous instances, where trenched gardens remained in the finest state of luxuriance during the most severe drouths, when others under ordinary management were nearly burnt up with the heat, growth having quite ceased, and leaves curled and withering for want of moisture.

The *mode* of trenching must vary with circumstances. In small circumscribed pieces of ground, necessity requires it to be done by hand, according to the well known process of throwing the earth to one side, from a ditch cut between the trenched and untrenched portions of the ground. It is not unusual to trench three feet deep for trees, but for the kitchen-garden two feet or even twenty inches, will answer an excellent purpose, and prove incomparably better than its entire omission. Disappointment sometimes results from the practice of throwing the poorer subsoil to the top; this should be avoided, or at least but a portion of the lower soil mixed with the upper, and the same time a copious amount of manure mixed through and more abundantly applied near the bottom. Compost or old manure is best; but fresh manure will answer nearly or quite as well, provided it is thoroughly broken up with an iron rake and mixed in, as the work advances.

The cost of trenching by hand may appear great, but when its future results are taken into the account, it will be found to be a remarkably paying expenditure, the gain amounting perhaps, to five hundred or a thousand per cent. for subsequent years. It may be greatly cheapened on all grounds where a team can be used, by the subsoil plow, to loosen up to a depth of one and a half to two feet. A double Michigan plow may be afterwards employed with great ease in this loosened bed of soil, to bring any desired portion to the surface, but more especially for working in through all parts a plentiful supply of manure.

The cost of preparing thus a half acre of garden ground, will be about as follows:

One coat of manure or compost, 10 loads drawn....	\$10.00
Two thorough harrowings of this manure, to break and intermix it,	25
Plowing with a common plow, followed with a subsoiler and double team,	3.00
Another coat of manure, 20 loads,	20.00
Two thorough harrowings.....	25
The whole thrown under to a depth of 15 inches, by large Michigan plow and triple team,	3.00
A third coat of manure, 20 loads,	20.00
Two harrowings.....	25
Plowing under with a common plow, about 8 inches, ..	1.00

Total cost for preparing garden ground, ...\$57.75

Of this expense, \$50 are paid for fifty loads of manure, (for half an acre, or 100 loads per acre.) and only \$7.75 for all else, after the manure is applied, the drawing of the manure being reckoned with the cost, \$1 per load. The manure would cost the same, if applied in the common way, and would be much less efficient, hence the subsoiling, plowing and harrowing, are operations of great economy, if only the saving in the manure is considered.

The mode and depth of some of the plowings must be made to vary with circumstances. If the subsoil is sterile, the plowing after the subsoiling must not be so deep; and a fourth coat of manure, well harrowed, and turned under with a gang-plow, will be advisable. The precaution must be observed, however, in any modification of the preceding process, to throw down each successive coat of manure to a depth different from the others. If *fresh* manure is applied, a greater number of harrowings will be necessary to break and intermix it, an operation of the greatest importance, and increasing *several times* the efficiency of the manure, according to careful experiments.

The present time of year will be found suitable for preparing for some of these operations. Sometimes hand-trenching may be done to great advantage towards the close of winter, when the subsoil is softened with moisture and digs easily; and manure may be collected and sometimes composted. If the composts are prepared a year, or at least several months ahead, all the better.

The French Prune.

MESSRS. EDITORS—The scions of two varieties of Prunes were imported from France last spring, through the agency of the Patent Office. The scions, a dozen or more in a package, were put in tin canisters, and largely distributed, principally in the states north of Pennsylvania, and certain districts bordering on the range of the Alleghany mountains, in order to be engrafted upon the common plum. These regions were selected in consequence of their being freer from the ravages of the curculio, which is so destructive to the fruit of the plum tree in other parts, as often to cut off the entire crop. It has been estimated that the state of Maine, alone, where this insect is rarely seen, is capable of raising dried prunes sufficient to supply the wants of the whole Union.

The *Prune d'Agen*, which is considered the best for drying, is of good size, of a violet color, with deep yellow flesh, of a delicious flavor. This variety succeeds best when engrafted upon a wild stock, or when it springs up directly from the root.

The *Prune Sainte Catharine*, in the climate near Paris, is also esteemed as excellent for drying. It likewise furnishes to commerce the well-known "*Pruneaux de Tours*." The tree is of medium size, about twenty-five feet high, and grows well both as a pyramid and as a standard. The branches are long, slender, and but little ramified, their shape being rather slight. Throughout their whole length there grows a large number of buds, so near to each other that on a branch a yard long, there are produced from fifty to sixty plums. Hence it is easy to conceive the excessive abundance of the crop of a tree thus laden with fruit, the productiveness of which is not equalled by any other kind. This plum is of medium size, obovate or nearly round. The skin is fine, pale yellow, sometimes

tinted with red on the sunny side, and lightly covered with a white transparent bloom. The flesh is yellowish, sometimes firm and adhering to the stone, *very* juicy, sweet, and agreeably flavored. It ripens in the neighborhood of Paris, in September and October. This plum, beyond its *unrivalled merits* for preserving in a dried state, has the advantage of being an excellent dessert fruit, when fully mature.

In very warm and dry climates, prunes are prepared by drying on hurdles by solar heat alone; but in France they place the plums upon round wicker baskets, about two feet in diameter and two inches deep, putting into an oven sufficiently warm to cause the fruit to wrinkle after an exposure of twelve hours. There are some further processes to which they are subjected before they are ready for the market—these can be found minutely described in the last Patent Office Agricultural Report, at the 30th and 31st pages.

If the plums can be raised here, we can see no reason why they could not be dried as easily and safely as peaches are; they are not so juicy, or so liable to rot as the peach. Grow them here, and we think Yankee ingenuity would soon discover the means of drying them in the utmost perfection, and with less labor than is required in France—as described in the Patent Office Report.

About the 12th of June, I received a canister of Prune scions from the Office; they were in bad condition; most of them, wood and bark, were turned brown. I distributed a portion among my neighbors, and had a number set in the Canada and other plumstocks. Only two of mine grew. One of them grew during the season, about five feet, making numerous long, slender, horizontal branches, (this I presume is the *St. Catharine*;) the leaves held on much later than those on several other kinds of plum trees near them. The wood of the prune scions appeared to be fully ripened, and doubtless will withstand the cold of our winters.

The greatest enemy we have to fear, in our attempts to cultivate them, is the curculio. From some cause, not easily understood, there was scarcely any damage done the past season to the plum crop in this section of the country by the curculio—(and the same may be said in regard to the apple.) Last season plums did not ripen as well as usual, but still they were so abundant, a large portion of them could not be sold at any price. The curculio may not return again for years, perhaps; and plums and other smooth skinned fruits may be cultivated with as much certainty as they were *here*, fifty years ago, and then they were as *sure*, nearly, as "seed-time and harvest."

With our endless variety of soil, location, climate, and varied population, we think the attempt to grow the French prune should be fairly and carefully tested. It is hardly creditable to us as a nation, to expend such sums of money as we annually do, for imported dried prunes, when in all probability, there might easily be grown in the "state of Maine, alone, sufficient to supply the wants of the whole Union," even if those *wants* were ten times greater than at present.

During the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1855, there was imported into the United States, 759,797 pounds of dried prunes—in value, (at the Custom House appraisal,) amounting to \$64,568.

Patriotism and self-interest, should prompt the American farmers and fruit growers, "to start an opposition line," in the culture of prunes for drying. If successful, it would be well for their own and our country's best interest—if unsuccessful they would have the satisfaction of knowing they failed in an honorable competition.

The prunes when properly dried, are assorted by sizes, and packed in boxes, baskets, or jars, for sale, or for use. Some of them are put up in very prettily prepared boxes with glass covers, &c. I noticed a sale of 160 cases fancy boxes Bordeaux Prunes, in New York, not long since. They ranged in price, according to quality, from sixteen, to thirty-eight cents—per pound I presume. L. BARTLETT. Warner, N. H.

Answer to Inquiries about Manures.

MESSRS. EDITORS—In sending the accompanying list of subscribers, I wish to ask some information that I think would be valuable to many of the readers of your papers.

The most common manures in use are barn-yard, guano, superphosphate of lime, bone dust, gypsum or plaster of Paris, wood ashes and lime. We should like to know which of these might be used together advantageously; and which should not be used together, as they would destroy the effect of each other. Also on what land and what crops you deem each most beneficial. EDWARD MERRITT. *Pawling, N. Y.*

Unleached wood ashes or lime should never on any account be mixed with guano, bone dust, or superphosphate of lime. Both the ashes (potash, soda, &c.) and the lime will set free the ammonia from its acid combinations, and, as it is a volatile substance, it flies off into the atmosphere and is lost. As ammonia is the most expensive of all manuring substances—costing in any concentrated and available form, at least twelve cents per lb.—it will readily be seen that nothing could be more detrimental to these manures, than to mix ashes or lime with them.

Ashes and lime mixed with superphosphate of lime, not only drive off the ammonia, but convert the soluble superphosphate into the insoluble phosphate of lime, thus neutralizing the effect of the sulphuric acid used in the manufacture of superphosphate. The effect of this change may be judged from the fact that superphosphate of lime cannot be bought for less than eight cents per lb., while phosphate of lime is worth only one cent per lb. This is taking the English price of superphosphate manures, (\$30 per ton.) In this country, soluble superphosphate of lime costs very much more than eight cents. Nothing can be worse, therefore, than to mix ashes and lime with superphosphate of lime, or with Peruvian guano.

We can conceive cases where ashes and lime might be used to accelerate the decomposition of barn-yard manure or composts, without much loss; but great care and judgment would be required, or there would certainly be a loss of ammonia. As a general thing, however, there is more need of retarding than accelerating fermentation in a manure heap. Rapid fermentation invariably results in a loss of ammonia; and on this account, if on no other, ashes and lime should not be mixed with barn-yard manure. If the manure is already decomposed to a considerable extent, and salts of ammonia are formed, the addition of ashes or lime would immediately decompose these salts, and a loss of ammonia would be the consequence.

Pure gypsum (sulphate of lime,) will do neither good nor harm if mixed with Peruvian guano, bonedust or superphosphate of lime. That is to say, gypsum and guano mixed together, would be neither better nor worse than the same amount of gypsum and guano sown separately. So of superphosphate, &c. We make this assertion with perfect confidence. We are well aware that there are some chemists who recommend the admixture of plaster with guano, in order to convert the volatile carbonate of ammonia of the guano into the fixed sulphate, and thus prevent the ammonia from escaping. If

plaster would do this, the recommendation would be valuable, but it will not. Furthermore, we have known samples of gypsum which actually set free ammonia when mixed with Peruvian guano and moistened with water. This result is probably to be ascribed to the gypsum containing a portion of lime not neutralized by sulphuric acid.

Gypsum might be advantageously used in the manure heap to "fix" ammonia, if it could be applied in solution. Where gypsum is cheap, we think it might pay to scatter it in the stables, and in situations where the urine could dissolve a portion of it. In this way it would do some good; and in no case can it do any harm. If it did not serve to retain the ammonia, it would still be as valuable as though applied alone directly to the soil.

Gypsum, unleached wood ashes, and lime, may be a more effective manure when mixed together for some time before sowing, than when sown separately. Some assert that such is the case. We doubt it. At all events, we can see no reason why it should be so. Even admitting that the ashes and plaster would decompose each other, we cannot see why the sulphate of potash and carbonate of lime should be any more effective than the sulphate of lime (plaster,) and carbonate of potash, (ashes.) It is, however, a question for the field, rather than the laboratory. What is the experience of our correspondents on this point?

"What land and what crops are these manures most beneficial to?" In the present state of agricultural chemistry, it is impossible to answer this question with any degree of confidence. The mere analysis of the crops or of the soil, will not enable us to answer it. Experiments alone afford light on this interesting subject. Unfortunately these have yet to be made in this country.

For wheat, barley, oats, and the grasses, Peruvian guano is the most effective of all artificial manures. For turnips, cabbage, lettuce, celery, &c., a good superphosphate of lime is the most powerful fertilizer known. For clover and peas, on most upland soils, gypsum is a profitable manure, where it can be purchased for less than \$5 per ton. Unleached wood ashes would be likely to do more good on beans, clover, and old meadows, than on any other crops. Lime is generally more valuable for wheat than for any of the other cereals; though the best crop of barley we ever saw, was on a light, sandy soil, that had been limed the preceding fall at the rate of 200 bushels per acre. Barn-yard manure is good on all soils and for all crops; and we hazard the assertion that the time will never come when it can be dispensed with.

We make these hasty remarks for the purpose of calling out more in detail the opinions of our experienced practical correspondents. J. H.

DEVON HERD BOOK, VOL. III.—The American Editor of the Devon Herd Book, SANFORD HOWARD, Esq., gives notice that he is ready to receive lists of animals to be inserted in the third volume, which is to be issued during the present year. For further particulars, address Mr. H. at the office of the Cultivator, Boston, Mass.

M. L. Sweet, of Grand Rapids, Mich., has a hog whose live weight is about 1200 pounds. He measures nine feet from the end of the snout to the root of the tail, and his body is three feet deep.

The Register of Rural Affairs.

We copy the following from the *Granite Farmer* of January 5, in which it appears as a communication from the Rev. J. M. MERRICK. While it is needless to say that the author is an entire stranger to us, his commendation of our little Annual forms quite a remarkable tribute to its value, and is all the more welcome from its entire impartiality:

MR. EDITOR—In a late paper you noticed the "Illustrated Annual Register of Rural Affairs," very justly commending it. You did not, however, speak more highly of it than it deserved. I have no more interest in it than any other reader, but I wish to invite the farmers to buy it. It is a cheap, and useful book—no catch-penny affair—but a really profitable work. It contains more information for the farmer, gardener and builder, than I know where to find in any book of twice the size. Its catalogue of fruit trees is worth more than the price of the book. It contains much valuable information respecting cattle, swine, cheese-making, dairy-work and agricultural pursuits generally. But perhaps its most important article treats of farm-buildings, both houses and barns, and is illustrated by many excellent engravings. And is not this a topic on which most farmers need instruction? Is it not a fact that a great deal of money is expended to make buildings inconvenient? Is it not true that many farmers, like many other men, when they propose to build a barn or house, have no very definite idea of how it will look or how it will accommodate them? Or, whether all the room is to be employed to most advantage and with the least expense? Every carpenter imagines himself capable of making a plan. Hence so many awkward, barn-like houses, and so many barns that cost so much more than they ought, and after all do not answer their intended purpose. It should be understood that it costs no more to build a good-looking house than an ugly one; and that what is spent in neat front yards, ornamental trees and handsome fences, is amply repaid in comfort and in the cultivation of good taste on the part of children.

This matter is worth looking after, especially by those who are about to build houses and barns which they intend to occupy as long as they live. When they can have things good-looking and convenient, without any extra outlay of money, it seems as if the dullest soul would prefer to have them so. Perhaps none of the plans given in the Register will suit the taste of a single individual; but none can study those plans without getting some useful ideas.

So with the whole book. It is full of good suggestions. When it does not convince us in regard to its specific propositions, it sets our own faculties to work, and thus does us the chief benefit that any book can furnish. It may be found in most of the bookstores, price twenty-five cents. No man can study it attentively without getting his money's worth and good interest besides.

The above is written of the ANNUAL REGISTER for 1856, but is equally true of its predecessor for 1855. They may be had, by enclosing to the proprietors of this paper, 50 cents in stamps or specie—or either singly, for 25 cents—in paper covers, postpaid. Bound—price of the two \$1, postpaid, or 50 cents each.

PRESERVING MILK—Place new milk in a clean pot, and evaporate it till nothing remains but a light dry powder. Put this in a bottle and seal it carefully from the air by corking and waxing, and when milk is wanted, dissolve a small quantity in pure soft water. The solution will be found to possess the qualities, as well as the peculiar taste and aroma of milk freshly drawn from the cow.

Improved King Philip Corn.

MESSRS. TUCKER & SON—Allow me to state a few facts about corn culture. On the 11th of June 1854, I received from the Patent Office, a small bag of "Improved King Philip or Brown Corn," with directions to plant, &c. I divided with one of my neighbors, and planted the balance myself on the 13th of June, and raised about 3 pecks of ears corn. On the first day of June, 1855, I planted 56 rods of good dry loamy soil, with the above variety of corn, with the following result. In less than 88 days, my corn was cut up by the ground, and set up in small parcels around a hill of corn, bound around the top to support it, to dry. After sufficiently dried, I hauled to the barn, and husked, measured and put into the corn-house, in good order, 84 bushels of ears, which is as good as 47 bushels of shell corn. The smallness of the cob, and the uncommonly large kernel produces the above result, which is about 134 16-56ths of a bushel of corn to the acre. My land was old potato ground and had been for 3 years, having been well manured. To change the order of things, I planted to corn. I think the Improved King Philip or Brown corn, is certainly a good variety for us to raise in this locality. I have usually raised the Dutton, which is an excellent variety of corn; yet my present belief is that the King Philip will out-yield the Dutton or any other variety that I am acquainted with. ALVIN LAWRENCE. Mexico, Osage Co., N. Y.

Underdraining with Plank.

MESSRS. EDS.—A few words more on the subject of underdraining with wood. My plan for underdrains is to get black walnut boards, 6 inches wide, 1½ inches thick—miter the edge, and lay 2 or 3 feet under the surface; and those that wait to see how long it will last in clay soil, will have to wait at least 20 years; but wood will not last as long in sandy land as it will in clay. Some will say that black walnut will not last for posts. This I admit. It will not at the surface of the ground, but 2 feet below, it will outlast the best of oak timber. A. H.

A Good Crop of Potatoes.

LARGE AND SMALL SEED.

In 1855, I planted potatoes on 44 rods of ground and dug one hundred bushels, or a fraction over three hundred and sixty bushels per acre. The soil was a clay loam, without manure. The name the potatoes are known by in this section of the country, is *Irish Grey*. I broke the ground about eight inches deep, as early in the spring as it was dry enough to stir; marked off one way with a shallow furrow, rows three feet apart, and planted in hills two and a half feet apart in the rows. There was a great call for seed potatoes, and a vast deal of talk about the relative value of large and small potatoes for seed. To test the matter, I planted six rows with the largest tubers I could select—six with fine smooth medium tubers—six with very small ones, some not larger than a hazel nut, and six with mixed. There was very little difference of yield, but quite a difference in size. The largest seed produced some of the largest potatoes, but a large proportion were medium in size, some small. The medium seed produced by far the best potatoes—smoother and more uniform in size and shape. The small seed produced some very fine potatoes, but they were generally under size. The mixed seed produced, next to the medium, the fairest potatoes. PHILIP LINTON, Ind.

Butter and Cheese Dairies.

MESSRS. EDITORS—As New-York and Vermont Dairies have lately been represented in your columns, I must beg a small space for Massachusetts.

Perhaps you are aware that the Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture have been offering for two or three years past, to different counties in the state, three premiums of \$75, \$50, and \$25, for the three best dairies of six cows each, with an exact account of their produce for five months.

The year before last they were offered to Worcester county. The successful claimants for the two first premiums were W. S. Lincoln of Worcester, and William Robinson of Barre.

The average period of milking in the case of Mr. Lincoln's dairy, was 4 months and 21 days. The produce was 854½ lbs. Had it continued for the five months at this rate it would have amounted to 920 lbs. 4½ oz. The butter was sold at two shillings, (33½ cts.) per pound. This would give an income of a little more than fifty one dollars per cow for five months. I believe your Vermont correspondent's cows yield him a little less than \$47 each for a period of seven months.

Three of Mr. Lincoln's cows were Ayrshire, two native, and one Devon. They had no feed more than what they got in the pasture, excepting about three weeks, when they had some corn fodder.

Mr. Robinson's dairy was devoted to cheese making with the exception of one day—the last of the trial.

His account stands thus :

1,623 lbs.	\$184.53
1,351½ lbs.	162.18
7 lbs. Butter, one day,...	1.75

Produce of six cows 5 months, \$348.46

Here is an income of \$58 per cow for a period of five months, for *cheese alone*, an average produce per cow of over 34 lbs. of cheese daily.

Mr. Robinson's cows were grade Durhams, and they had two qrts. Indian meal each per day during the five months.

Perhaps there are gentlemen in New-York and Vermont too, who have done better than those above named ; if so, we shall be happy to hear from them.
E. N. N.

Why will not the Butter Come ?

MESSRS. TUCKER & SON—Can you or any of your numerous correspondents, solve for me the mystery, "why butter will not come," in some particular instances. I keep two cows—one of which was fresh in June, the other in October last. We have always churned twice a week, until within the last month, when we have churned but once a week—or rather attempted to churn. Our milk-maid always saves about two quarts of strippings every time of milking—that is put in the cream crock with a little buttermilk at the start. The cream, after four or five days gathering, is then put in the churn, thick and sour, and we have three times in succession now, churned nearly a day at a time without getting any butter. The cream just gets like froth or foam, and smells very sour. After letting it stand for six more hours, a kind of yellow scum, about half an inch thick, rises on the top. They put boiling water in the churn before commencing to churn, but it was of no avail. They have scalded well their churn, their cream and milk crocks. The churn is one of the "atmospheric" ones, as they are called. They have kept the milk of the cows separate, but with just the same results. I feed them corn fodder cut up on a patent cutting box, and then mix with it oats and corn, chopped together, and then wet it. They are also salted three times a week, and a lump of rock salt in the barn-yard. We have usually made eight or nine pounds a week besides the cream and milk used in the family, but we have quit the business entirely—given

it up in despair. If you can explain it upon any other ground than *witches*, please out with it, and oblige,
AN OLD SUBSCRIBER. Franklin Co., Penn.

A correspondent in one of our former volumes, says : The difficulty, however, is easily obviated, and most easily by using Crowell's Thermometer churn. When the butter manifests a disposition not to come, a gallon of boiling water should be put in the lower chamber of the churn, and the crank turned from five to ten minutes. If there are buttery particles in the cream, they will appear to be melted. The hot water should then be drawn off, and cold water substituted. A churning of about five minutes will then most assuredly fetch the butter. Such butter, when worked with judgment and care, may be made to be nearly as good as that produced in the ordinary way."

Coloring Butter with Carrots.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I am well aware that the idea of coloring butter with the juice of the carrot, is still ridiculed by many, yet for all that, I think that if the practice was much more extensively practiced, it would be the saving, or rather the making of much money to those engaged in the manufacture of butter. Every person who has kept cows for the purpose of making butter, knows very well that there is a great difference in the milk of different cows, that of one making butter of a rich yellow color, while the milk from another will produce butter of a light color and inferior looking quality. During the summer, or while cows have a plenty of fresh sweet grass, the difference is not so apparent ; but during the fall, after the feed becomes frost-bitten, and in the winter and spring, there is a striking contrast between them. To those whose cows make light colored butter, I would say that by the judicious use of a small quantity of carrot juice, put into the cream, butter of a good color, and a fine flavor, can be made at any season of the year, as the carrot improves the flavor as well as the color of butter. I know that some persons advocate the doctrine, that if cows are fed with carrots, the butter will receive a sufficient color. I do not know but that a cow might be induced to eat carrots enough for that purpose ; but of one thing I am certain, that the juice of one carrot applied to the cream, will color more butter than five bushels fed to the cow. The present winter I am milking two cows ; they are fed, milked, and taken care of just alike ; the milk of one makes a rich yellow butter, while from that of the other, butter of a light color can only be made, and which would not sell for more than three-fourths as much per pound as that made from the other, but by the use of carrots, the butter looks as nice and sells for as much as that from the first mentioned cow.

It has been the custom of many farmers in this vicinity for years past, to color the butter they make while their cows are fed on hay ; they thereby make a better quality of butter, and consequently it brings a higher price, which amply pays them for the extra time and trouble of coloring it.

A short time since I received a letter from a lady in the state of New-York, requesting me to send her directions for coloring butter with carrots. Thinking that perhaps there might be others who read the Country Gentleman, that would like the same information, I will give it as follows :

To cream sufficient for ten pounds of butter, take two good sized Orange carrots—wash them clean, and grate off the outside, (or that portion which contains the coloring matter;) then pour a pint of warm water to it, and let it stand a short time to soak ; then strain the whole through a linen or cotton cloth, squeezing out the juice, which is to be put into the cream and churned together. More or less of the carrot may be used, as persons may wish to have their butter of a deeper or lighter color, and some carrots afford more coloring matter than others. C. T. ALVORD. Wil-
mington, Vt.

A Page about Squirrels.

It is stated that there are in North America not less than twenty species of true squirrels, all of them dwellers in the trees, and by including the "ground" and "flying" squirrels (*tamias* and *ptermys*) the number might be increased to more than forty.

Their agility is wonderful, and in grace and rapidity of motions, they are perhaps unequalled by any other animal. The height from which a squirrel will leap to the ground without injury, is spoken of as one of those marvels witnessed by every squirrel hunter.



THE GREY SQUIRREL.

"When a tree in which it has taken refuge is found not to afford sufficient shelter, and a neighboring tree is not near enough for it to leap to, it then perceives the necessity of returning to the ground, to get to some other part of the woods. Some species, as the cat squirrel, fearing to take the dreadful leap (often nearly a hundred feet), rush down by the trunk. Not so the more active squirrels, as the common grey kind. [We present a cut of the Grey Squirrel herewith, which recently appeared in *Life Illustrated*.] These run to the extremity of a branch, and spring boldly down in a diagonal direction. The hunter—if a stranger to the feat—would expect to see the creature crushed or crippled by the fall. No danger of that. Even the watchful dog that is waiting for such an event, and standing close by the spot, has not time to spring upon it, until it is off again like a flying bird, and, almost as quick as sight can follow, is seen ascending some other tree.

"There is an explanation required about this precipitous leap. The squirrel is endowed with the capability of spreading out its body to a great extent, and this in the downward rush it takes care to do—thus breaking its fall by the resistance of the air. This alone accounts for its not killing itself."

A remarkable peculiarity of the Grey Squirrel, is its singular and distant migrations, large numbers of them often setting out together on these journeys. Hence the name, *Sciurus migratorius*. Bachman gives an interesting account of one of these migrations, which he witnessed in the autumn of 1808. On that occasion troops of them suddenly made their appearance on the banks of the Hudson, which they attempted to cross in several places between Waterford and Saratoga. Many of them were drowned, and those which were fortunate enough to reach the opposite shore were so wet and fatigued that they were easily killed with clubs, and large numbers thus perished. There is no regularity about these migrations, and their motive even is not certainly known. Under ordinary circumstances these little creatures are as much afraid of water as cats, yet when moving along their track of migration they plunge boldly into it—wheth-

er but a narrow stream, or a broad river—without calculating whether they will ever reach the other side. It is stated that they roll pieces of dry wood, or bark, into the water, and, seating themselves on these are wafted across, supplied, nautilus-like, with natural sails,—or in other words, using their tails for this purpose: of course this account must be held as apocryphal.

Accompanying this article are also portraits (for which we are indebted to the same source), of the Striped and Black Squirrels. The former, the *Sciurus Striatus* of science, is known by various other popular



THE BLACK SQUIRREL.

names, such as Ground Squirrel, Chipping Squirrel, Hacky and Chipmunk. Its habits differ somewhat widely from those of other squirrels. It is usually seen running along fences or stone walls, under which it frequently makes its burrow, or sitting upon a decayed stump, within or beneath which it generally has a hiding-place. It rarely ascends trees, except when pursued and cut off from its hiding-place in the ground. Its light and graceful form attracts the attention of passers-by on most of our wooded roads between the fiftieth and thirty-third parallels of latitude.

A deadly feud is said to exist between the Grey Squirrel and Black Squirrel, and in the encounters which take place whenever the two species meet, the former is generally victorious; so that it is asserted that the latter will soon disappear from districts where grey squirrels become numerous—as the native rat



THE STRIPED SQUIRREL.

gives place to the fierce "Norway." Its color is glossy jet black, and its fur finer and softer than that of its grey cousins. Its habits are similar.

We have not room to go beyond these three varieties; but those who are interested in Natural History can scarcely find in its whole range a more interesting

family to study, than that comprising the different kinds of squirrels. They are, as all know, frequently hunted and killed in immense numbers; and they are also frequently caged as family pets. Better far than the latter, if we in the city would enjoy their pleasant company, is the recent action of the authorities in Boston and Philadelphia, who have set them at liberty in considerable numbers in their commons and parks.

The Housewife.

Recipe for Curing Hams, &c.

The following recipes are sent us by a friend in New-Jersey, who says—"Had you tested them as long as I have, you would not be afraid to endorse and spread them before your readers."

Ten lbs. of clean coarse salt—4 to 5 ozs. of nitre—4½ gallons of water, and 1 quart of molasses, to the 100 lbs. of meat. It is not necessary to boil the pickle, but remove the scum as it rises, previous to putting it on the meat. Pack *loosely* the hams and other pieces, and put on just weight enough to keep them covered. From four to six weeks is the usual time to let them remain, but a longer time will do no harm, as they get no saltier when once saturated. It is a good precaution to take them out and *repack* them, in about 15 or 20 days, so as to give the pickle a better chance to get in. Many a ham has been spoiled through this neglect, without even suspecting the cause.

SMOKING.—Never make a smoke till the meat is done dripping, nor in damp or rainy weather. Smoke the meat with the door mostly open, and smoke without heating it. It will be smoked enough *before* it becomes as black and as bitter as the soot on the chimney back. All *smokers* (except tobacco smokers,) should bear that in mind.

For Seasoning Sausage Meat.

To 30 lbs. of well cut meat, from 9 to 10 oz. of clean, well rubbed fine salt, 4 ozs. of pepper, and 1 oz. of sage. If you use a cutter, as most persons do, apply the seasoning after the first operation, and then pass it through the machine again, which will facilitate the process of mixing, and which should be done thoroughly.

For Curing Beef.

Eight lbs. of clean coarse salt, 2 ozs. of nitre, 1½ lbs. of sugar, and 4 gallons of water to the 100 lbs. of meat. Remove the scum, and let the rounds and other drying beef remain in pickle from 9 to 14 days. Beef is not improved by smoking. Boiling meat will keep all winter in this pickle.

The Vinegar Plant.

[The following account of this plant or fungus, more particular than we have before seen, comes from a reliable source, and will be read with interest.]

I noticed in a recent number of the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, an allusion to this singular and anomalous production. Having had a little practical observation of its nature and qualities, I may perhaps present some facts in relation to it of interest. I received one a few months ago from a friend, who had procured it in Plattsburgh, but from whence or how it was introduced at that place, I have not been able to ascertain.

I conjecture it to be a fungus, and that it is probably the concentrated essence of the substance commonly called "mother" in vinegar. It is somewhat darker than this substance, and of much firmer consistency, and may be taken up and handled without breaking or dissolving. It spreads horizontally with rapidity, until it fills the cavity of the vessel, and it is said that the pressure of its expansion is so great as

sometimes to burst glass ware of common thickness. After attaining a vertical thickness of an inch or two, a second plant forms beneath the first. This adheres but slightly to the original, and may be separated with ease by slipping the hand between them. These layers or new plants, continue to form, and if not removed will fill the vessel. They form, and are ready for removal at intervals of about four weeks. I imagine, from the appearance of some vinegar made from this substance, which is contained in a transparent bottle, that the plant is also formed by its element rising and coagulating on the surface of the liquid. It may be rapidly propagated by the first process.

Water, sweetened and applied to the plant in an open vessel, is all that is necessary. A gallon of this water, combined with a plant of ten or twelve inches in diameter, will form vinegar fit for use in about three weeks. When a larger quantity of water is used or a smaller plant, the operation will be slower.

The vinegar continues to increase in acidity by age, and becomes equally pungent with that made in any other manner—indeed it will acquire too much pungency to be pleasant. When the vinegar is formed and removed, fresh water may be applied and the operation carried on indefinitely. A family may thus secure at an insignificant expense, a constant supply of most excellent vinegar. I confess that at first I entertained a prejudice against vinegar thus formed, and used it with reluctance, but without hesitation I now pronounce it equal in flavor and every other essential, to any I have ever had in my family. It is proper for me to add, although I doubt the fact, that it is represented, if the plant is broken or the mass be separated, that it loses its peculiar properties. w.

An Egg within an Egg.

MESSRS. TUCKER AND SON—You will advertise a curiosity by publishing the following:

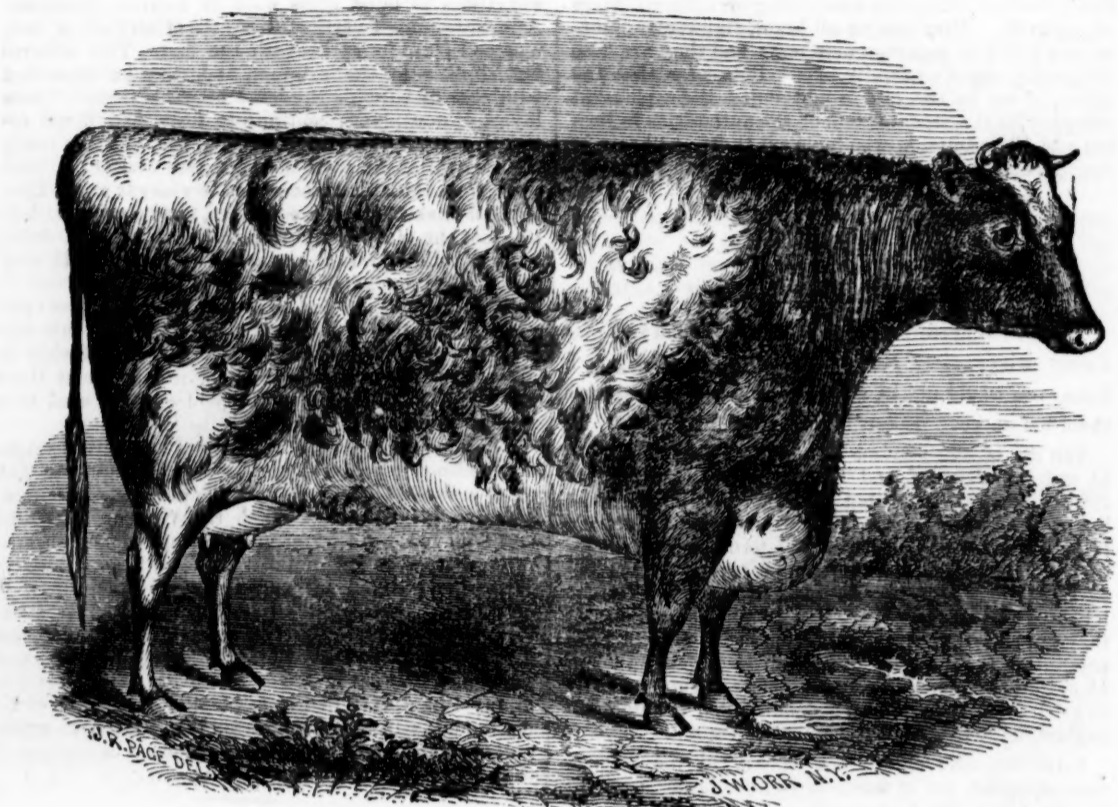
A Shanghai hen, owned by D. M. Rea, of Rushville, Ohio, laid an egg some time in December last, which is the greatest curiosity in the egg line, ever known in this section of country. It was nearly as large as a goose egg; and when broken, one perfect yolk and white was in it, and within that another egg of the usual size, and as perfect as any egg can be, shell and all, being an egg within an egg. If any one between the tropics of cancer and capricorn, can show a similar freak in nature, let them come out and proclaim it. We have the evidence to prove the above to be a reality and no hoax. E. KALB. Rushville, O.

Tobacco Water for Seeds.

I read in the Dollar Newspaper a short time since, a communication, stating that if all cucumber, melon, squash, and cabbage seeds, and all such seeds as had the two first leaves ready formed in the seeds, were soaked in a weak solution of tobacco water for 2 to 6 hours before planting or sowing, it would keep the cut worm and ground flea from depredating on them, until they were too large to be injured by them. Now I wish to know if the tobacco water would not be likely to injure the germ so that they would not grow at all? C. G.

Tobacco water, however concentrated it may be, does not prove poisonous to vegetable growth, and would undoubtedly produce no injury to cucumber and other seeds. The small quantity that would pass into the new plant, would not probably repel any insects—we have no expectations whatever that it would, but it is very easily tried.

POLAND OATS.—We have received a very fine sample of these oats from I. W. BRIGGS, Esq., P. M. a West Macedon, N. Y., who, we take it for granted, desires us to say that he has a quantity of them for sale. This, however, is against our rules. All such matters belonging to the advertising department.



Oxford 13

Roan; calved January 7, 1850; bred by Thomas Bates of Kirkleavington; the property of NOEL J. BECAR, New-York; got by 3d Duke of York (10166,) dam Oxford 5 by Duke of Northumberland (1940,) g. d. Oxford 2 by Short Tail (2621,) gr. g. d. Matchem Cow by Matchem (2281,) gr. gr. g. d. by Young Wynyard (2859.)

Oxford 13 was winner of the 1st prize at the State Fair at Saratoga in 1853, as the best Cow 3 year old and upwards.

An Experiment Easily Made.

If any of the readers or borrowers of this paper should be so ill-prepared for the winter feeding of his stock as to have nothing beside dry hay for them—nothing even for his cow or cows but dry feed, let him be assured that his cattle are suffering in *comfort*, and that he is suffering in *purse*, on account of his not having provided some additional food. If he doubt this assertion, let him put an end to this doubt by an experiment of no great expense or difficulty. Let him procure from some neighbor a few bushels of turnips, swedes, carrots, parsnips, mangolds or beets, or any other root used in feeding. Let him also procure some bran, shorts or meal of corn and cob ground together, oil-cake meal, or anything of the kind. And now, regularly once or twice a day let him cut hay enough to fill nearly a bushel basket, slice up one or two pecks of any of the above-named roots, put them into a half barrel tub, add one to two quarts of any of the meals which we have named, and then pour on a pailful of hot water. When all these are well stirred together, with the addition sometimes or regularly of a little salt, say one teaspoonful or so, and the mess is of the proper temperature, let the cow with which you are trying this experiment have the mixture. Perhaps the best time to let a cow have such a mess is just before milking, or at milking time. She will be the more likely to give down her milk freely.

Having noted the quantity of milk given before this experiment, and also the quantity and color of the butter, make a note of the same things during the time of your experiment, which ought to continue not less

than four weeks. Calculate the returns you have received in increase of milk and butter both as to quantity and quality, not forgetting the increased *comfort* of a creature made dependent on you therefor. If the result is not a resolution that next year you will raise your own roots, or more of them, and that you will feed all your cows, after this, in *some such way*, then we are mistaken.

A Precocious Pullet.

EDITORS CULTIVATOR—A circumstance which occurred in this neighborhood during the past season, has been communicated to me, and as it appears to be thought somewhat singular, I forward you the facts. A person living about a mile from here at present, raised a large flock of chickens, hatched first day of May last, of which flock several commenced laying when four months old; one of the chickens having completed a litter of eggs, commenced clucking. And the owner, in order to see the result, put the eggs under her. On the first day of November last, the hen being then six months old, had a brood of eleven chickens, hatched by herself from eggs of her own laying, the chickens being then eight days old. The statement is confirmed by several respectable persons living in the neighborhood. I saw the hen and seven of her chickens about three weeks ago—four of the flock had died from cold and exposure. Six of the flock most strikingly resemble the mother—the seventh differed slightly in appearance from the rest. The hen is of the common dunghill breed of the country, with perhaps a slight cross of the Cochin China. This, however, I only infer from the general appearance of the hen, as the owner could not certainly inform me whether there had been a cross or not. BLUE NOSE. St. Andrews, N. B., Jan. 3, 1856.



"Black Hawk Hero."

Property of Tho's GOULD, Aurora, Cayuga Co., N. Y. Bred by Frederick Miner, of Bridport, Addison Co., Vt. Foaled July 20th, 1851. Sired by David Hill's "Old Vermont Black Hawk." He by "Sherman Morgan," by "Justin Morgan," by "True Briton." "Hero's" dam was sired by "Sherman Morgan," and from a high bred "Mambrino" mare, and trotted a mile repeatedly in two minutes and fifty seconds without training. Hero is a rich coal block, with one white hind foot. He stands at 4 years old, *without shoes*, over Fifteen Hands high, and weighs over Nine Hundred Pounds. The above engraving of this horse was drawn from nature.

Black Hawk Hero took the First Premium as foreign Two-year-old Stallion, at the New-York State Show at Saratoga, in 1853; and the First Premiums at the Cayuga County Shows in 1853 and 1855.

A New Wind Power.

MESSEURS. TUCKER & SON—Believing that any information which would be interesting and profitable to the numerous agricultural and mechanical readers of the "Country Gentleman," would be acceptable to you, I communicate the following:

The rapid rise in the price of labor for a few years past has led very many to wish for some cheap and simple *motive power*, to which they could attach various labor-saving machines, for sawing wood, cutting fodder, threshing, cleaning and grinding grain of all kinds, churning, raising water, &c. This desire of others as well as myself, has especially occupied my inventive faculties for some three months past, the result of which is a very greatly improved *wind power*, which, in my opinion, cannot fail eventually to supersede all wind powers now in use, and be an exceedingly *useful* thing for every farmer and mechanic. It has been about a month since I first put the working model in operation, during which time it has been seen by many of our townsmen, scientific and practical men, by all of whom it is considered an exceedingly curious, simple and useful invention. I have this week sent my papers to the "Patent Office," so that I suppose I shall be safe in giving a general and brief description of its nature, construction and operation.

The nature of it is such, that *wind*, as a *motive power*, is more available and useful by its use, than by any other heretofore used, particularly in the following points: It is *always* in a position to receive the *full force* of the wind, however often or suddenly the wind turns to different points of the compass. It is more convenient and less expensive attaching machinery to its shaft, which extends perpendicularly from the axis of motion directly down into the apartment where the machinery is, than to the horizontal shaft of all other wind powers, which is necessarily at considerable distance in altitude and longitude from the

machinery. It is more easily made sufficiently firm to resist the force of any violent gale without being blown down. It is cheaper, being made of wood and canvas, and so simple in construction that any ordinary wood mechanic can readily make one, and obtain the necessary materials in any country town. Its revolutions being horizontal, instead of vertical like other wind powers, it may be more advantageously covered with a roof to protect it from the sun and storms; or if not covered, as there is no gearing except at the lower end of the shaft, its motion will not be materially obstructed by storms of any kind; and it is a more perfect regulator of its own velocity, &c.

It is constructed with an upright shaft, having 6 or more horizontal arms attached to its upper gudgeon, to the end of each of which is a perpendicular cross-piece, of some more than the length of the arm, to which are hung 2 wings of the same length, one opening towards, and the other from, the center of motion. There is also attached about midway to each arm, a stick with a clasped weight at the outer end so arranged that it may clasp the wings and prevent their opening.

When the wind blows gently, both wings upon one arm open to receive it—the inner one opening first, which causes the machine to revolve, and the wings upon each arm open consecutively, as they arrive at a certain point, and close as they approach a certain point upon the opposite side, constantly opening and shutting like the wings of a bird. As the velocity increases by increase of wind, the centrifugal force has a tendency to prevent the wing turning towards the center of motion, from opening, thus leaving but one wing or half the surface, for the wind to operate upon, and offsetting the effect of the increased force of wind, and having a tendency to keep the speed or motion equal. The regulators have also the same effect to a much greater degree, as an increase of velocity in the revolutions of the machine bring them up by centrifugal force towards the wings, and prevent their opening so wide, or even at all, according to the velocity the regulators are designed to admit of. As the speed de-

creases, they are brought back to their place by gravitation, their upper pinion being back of the base or center of gravity. The regulators are connected with a lever or gate at the lower end of the shaft, so that the wings may be closed as readily and in the same way as the gate to a dam.

From the above brief description I think you and your readers may get an idea of the new Yankee invention, which the inventor believes may, in addition to all purposes where a stationary power is wanted, be advantageously used in navigation upon rivers and lakes for transportation of freight especially. R. NUTTING. Randolph, Vt.

Comparative Value of Varieties of Spring Wheat.

MESSRS. EDITORS—In the December no. of *The Cultivator*, you ask of those who have had experience in raising China Wheat, to contribute their mite, or knowledge, through your valuable paper, in regard to its comparative value with other kinds of spring wheat.

First, I would say that I have had as much experience in farming and wheat-growing as most men of my age; and secondly, that I have been so far through the mill, that I was counted worthy of being placed at the head of the largest flouring establishment and grain depot in western New-York.

We buy grain of all kinds, but particularly deal largely in wheat, of which I will give you the price-current at this time, as it will enable us to arrive at the point about as definitely as in any way.

Soules wheat, pure White,	\$2.12½
Fair grades of Red and White mixed, ..	\$1.57½ to \$2.00
China, first quality,	2.00
Fife or Scotch,	\$1.50 to 1.87½
Black Sea,	\$1.37½ to 1.50

It is very seldom you will meet with any other kinds of spring wheat in this country. Within the last two or three years the China and Fife have taken the place of other kinds. The reason why China wheat brings a better price than other kinds, is—first, the berry or kernel is of a soft smooth nature, grinds soft, even and flat, and makes flour that will compare favorably with good winter wheat; and secondly, the hull or bran of the wheat (if properly harvested) is thinner and it makes more flour from a given number of pounds of wheat, than any other kind except the Black Sea. We have no difficulty in getting a good price for all China flour sent to market, and cannot fill one half the orders we have.

I have never known the China wheat to rust and shrink, although the last season our wheat crop was much injured by the grub, which caused it to ripen unevenly; consequently the berry is not as uniform as it otherwise would have been. It grows a hard strong straw, and unless an uncommonly stout growth, never lodges or crinkles down, and usually gives from twenty to twenty-five bushels per acre, according to season and cultivation—have known it to give over thirty bushels per acre on common unmanured lands.

With some farmers, the China is objected to on account of the thin or light chaff, which causes the berry to lie nearly naked or uncovered in the head. If suffered to remain until it gets fully ripe, it is very liable to shell in harvesting, or if there is a heavy storm of rain or wind it will be likely to shell. The only remedy is to harvest early. With most farmers and all millers, it is no objection. It will grow well on any of our common wheat lands.

One word about the Fife or Scotch wheat, and why some farmers prefer that kind. I find on inquiry, (and I have a great opportunity for that,) that the Fife wheat grows more bushels per acre than China, and is not as liable to shell in a storm or in harvesting. Some

say they had rather raise and sell it for one shilling per bushel less—that they can make as much per acre and harvest at their leisure. But with a surplus of low grades of flour, and a tight money market, and the China will find its way first to market.

BREAD FROM SPRING WHEAT FLOUR.—One great difficulty with our ladies, in changing from winter to spring wheat flour, is, the spring wheat flour requires more labor; the dough should be made stiff or harder, worked longer, and a little more care taken to keep the cold air from it when rising, and baked a little longer in an oven evenly heated by hard seasoned wood.

BREAD FROM SPROUTED WHEAT FLOUR.—On account of the great amount of rain we had last season, some of our wheat is sprouted, but you will meet with very little among our best farmers, or those who harvested early. Should any of our ladies be unfortunate enough to get flour made from sprouted wheat, they can still have good bread, by observing the above directions, with the addition of a piece of alum, say as large as a common size walnut, dissolved in water and added to the wetting, for a baking for a family of four or five, or half a wine glass of highwines for same baking. DANIEL PARKER. Angel Mills, Watertown, Jefferson Co., N. Y., Jan. 1856.

Culture of the Potato.

EDS. CO. GENT.—From the experience of the past year I am induced to offer for publication a few thoughts on the culture of the potato. Having had extensive correspondence with a great number of individuals on this subject, I have finally come to the conclusion that this fine vegetable can be secured from the disease almost entirely by the mode of culture. I would here remark that the general opinion prevails, that the finer kinds of this plant are more subject to rot than the coarser varieties. I think this opinion is just. The past season, a portion of my field was not hoed, in consequence of the incessant rains during the hoeing season. In digging, there was a marked difference between those hoed and those not. In no case where they were not hoed, could any be found at all affected by the disease, unless some few were imbedded very deeply in the soil. They were tolerably clear of weeds, and on a light loamy soil. In the case of J. M. HALLOCK of Medusa, mentioned by me in the Country Gentleman of 20th Dec. last, and also in the Jan. no. of the Cultivator, they were not even plowed between the rows, only kept clear by careful hoeing. He informs me that the tubers grew in many instances almost entirely out of the ground, and in many cases the vines trailed, and formed small sized tubers for some considerable distance from the root. He remarked that they grew in clusters, immediately around the roots of the vines, many of large size appearing to lie on the top of the ground, and some of them running down endwise from 6 to 10 inches. These freaks, which it is so desirable to witness, I imagine are more or less to be ascribed to the mode of culture.

From these premises, I will now state the mode of culture I intend to pursue the next season. I do it in time, so that if any objections be made to it, I can have an opportunity to correct my plan before planting time. I have a field of 5 acres—an old pasture, the clover pretty much run out. The stone have all been taken off, having dug it over with the crowbar some 7 or 8 year since. I intend to plow deep early in the spring, and turn the furrow as flat as can conveniently be done, so as to destroy all vegetation. Soon as the top of the furrows become dry and loose, to harrow the field with a short tooth harrow, so as not to invert the sod, and to do this as often as once a week until I get ready to plant. Then roll the land

with a light two-horse roller, so as to obliterate all the marks of the drag teeth. Then with a one-horse marker, to mark it out both ways in rows 2 feet 9 inches asunder—plant one piece about the size of a butternut in the angles—throw in the hill at the same time, a small handful of plaster, hen manure, guano or ashes, which ever I may have on hand at the time—cover with a hoe not to exceed 1½ inches in depth, making the hill broad and flat, taking care that no roots of grass or weeds be brought round the hill, and all such on the surface to be carefully destroyed. This kind of care would lessen the work of hoeing very materially—"a stitch in time saves nine." Soon as the tops have fairly broke through the hill, give them another small handful of plaster or other fertilizer, so as to give them the start of any weeds that may chance to have escaped the hoe in planting. As soon as the tops are of good size, and in dry weather, run a shovel plow both ways between the rows; lastly, with the hoe stir all the ground between the rows left by the plow, and the field is done until time to dig. My experience is all in favor of early digging. Observations on this part of the subject must be left till another time. The variety that I cultivate are just as good for cooking, dug early as late. G. W. DURANT. *Rensselaerville, N. Y.*

Income from Forty Sheep.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Below I give the income of 40 Merino sheep which I wintered last winter:

Fed to them by estimation seven tons, about equal quantities oat straw and meadow hay, worth \$5.00 per ton,.....	\$35.00
Two bushels mixed grain, fed in the spring,...	2 00
Expense washing, shearing, &c.,.....	5 00
Pasturing at thirty-four cents per head,.....	13 60
Interest on the capital, \$160, is,.....	9 60
And have now a flock left valued at \$100, which reduces my capital \$60, which I add to expense,.....	60 00
	—\$125.20
Credit by wool sold,.....	\$ 81.00
By sheep and lambs sold,.....	148 00
	—\$229.00
Leaving a net income of,.....	\$103.80
or \$2.59 per head.	D. F. Thelford, Vt.

Worms in Horses.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Can you or some of your subscribers, inform me through *The Cultivator*, how to rid horses of worms. C. M.

We shall be glad to receive the experience of any of our readers in answer to the above; in the meantime we give the following from ALLEN'S "Domestic Animals:"

The long white worm (*lumbricus teres*) much resembles the common earth-worm, and being from six to ten inches in length, inhabits the small intestines. It is a formidable looking animal; and if there are many of them, they may consume more than can be spared of the nutritive part of the food, or the mucus of the bowels. A tight skin, and rough coat, and tucked-up belly, are sometimes connected with their presence. They are then, however, voided in large quantities.

Remedies.—A dose of physic will sometimes bring away almost incredible quantities of them. Calomel is frequently given as a vermifuge. The seldomer this drug is administered to the horse, the better. When the horse can be spared, a strong dose of physic is an excellent vermifuge, so far as the long round worm is concerned. But a better medicine, and not interfering with either the feeding or work of the horse is emetic tartar, with ginger, made into a ball with linseed meal and treacle, and given every morning, half an hour before the horse is fed.

A smaller, darker colored worm, called the needle-

worm, or *ascaris*, inhabits the larger intestines. Hundreds of them sometimes descend into the rectum, and immense quantities have been found in the cæcum. These are a more serious nuisance than the former, for they cause a very troublesome irritation about the fundament, which sometimes sadly annoys the horse. Their existence can generally be discovered by a small portion of mucus, which, hardening, is found adhering to the anus.

Remedies.—Physic will sometimes bring away great numbers of these worms; but when there is much irritation about the tail, and much of this mucus, indicating that they have descended into the rectum, an injection of linseed oil, or of aloes dissolved in warm water, will be a more effectual remedy. The tape-worm is seldom found in the horse.

Lewis County Dairies.

MESSRS. TUCKER & SON—I have read Mr. SHEPARD'S statement of the products of his dairy of five cows, which made 795 lbs. of butter and 135 lbs. cheese. The cheese made being equal to 44 lbs. butter, it would give 168 lbs. butter to each cow. Now as I consider this a challenge, I take the liberty to accept it, and would say that I kept eleven cows the past season—one of them a 3-year old and two of them 2-year olds. I have made and sold from them 172 lbs. butter to the cow. [We omit what our correspondent says about "\$140 for sour milk," as there is nothing of the kind in Mr. Shepard's statement—EDS.]

But I can tell you a much larger story about butter-making, and from common cows. Mr. REA of West Turin in this county, made and sold from sixteen cows, 212 lbs. butter to each cow, and this beside the butter used in the family.

Another instance, Mr. WM. OLIVERS of this town, kept five cows the past season, and sold butter from them to the amount of \$56.46 per cow. So you see Mr. Shepard's Ayrshire cows can be beat in making butter. ISAAC BRINCKERHOFF. *Martinsburgh, Lewis Co., N. Y.*

Croup and Whooping Cough.

I send you the two following receipts for the cure of two of the most common diseases among children, viz: Whooping Cough and Croup. The remedies cost nothing, can be administered by anybody, and are always at hand. The croup remedy will cure the patient in two hours. I ask the credulous and incredulous to give them a trial.

WHOOPING COUGH.—The best kind of coffee prepared as for the table, and given as a common drink to the child as warm as it can be drunk; and a piece of alum for the patient to lick as often as it may wish. Most children are fond of alum, and will get all they need without being urged, but if they dislike it, they must be made to taste of it eight or ten times in the course of the day. It will effectually break up the worst case of whooping cough in a very short time. To adults or children in the habit of taking coffee, the remedy is good for nothing.

CROUP.—A piece of fresh lard, as large as a butternut, rubbed up with sugar, in the same way that butter and sugar are prepared for the dressing of puddings, divided in three parts, and given at intervals of twenty minutes, will relieve any case of croup not already allowed to progress to the fatal point.—*N. Y. Evening Post.*

A correspondent, alluding to the preference given by many farmers to partisan papers over those devoted to their particular interests, says: "I have known poor men work themselves up into comfortable circumstances by cultivating the soil, but not one to get rich on politics."

Winter Meeting of the State Ag. Society.

According to notice the Society met at the Assembly Chamber, at 12 o'clock on Wednesday, and having been called to order by the President, Hon. SAMUEL CHEEVER of Saratoga,

The Treasurer's Report was read by Secretary JOHN-SON, showing

Receipts of the year together with cash on hand at last meeting,.....	\$17,045.55
Expenditures,.....	14,301.86
Cash on and,.....	2,743.69
Premium medals and books on hand,.....	225.00
Total assets,.....	\$2,968.69

The Report of the Executive Committee followed: congratulating the farmers of the State on their own prosperity and that of the society during the year, and looking forward with confidence to a long course of future prosperity and usefulness. These reports having been accepted, an animated discussion on the propriety of permanently locating the Fairs of the Society at one or more places, was opened by a resolution from Mr. GEO. CLARKE, of Otsego. In the course of this, answers to the circulars sent by the Executive Committee to the County Societies, were called for, and it appeared that only thirteen had responded, of which nine advocated and four opposed the proposition. After dinner the whole subject was voted not in order.

Mr. COREY then moved the appointment of the usual committee of three from each Judicial District, to nominate officers for the ensuing year and to recommend a place for holding the next Fair. Agreed to, and while the committee were in consultation, Mr. DENNIS-ROX* of Steuben, in answer to a call from the Secretary, gave a detailed history of the origin and formation of the Wool Grower's Association of Western New-York, of which he was the first President.

Judge MILLER, of Monroe, followed with some facts in regard to the Western Fruit Growers' Association, and opened a discussion on the failure of the peach crops, in which he was followed by Messrs. Baldwin of Onondaga, Newcomb of Rensselaer, Stevens of Genesee, Miller of Orange, Judge Cheever of Saratoga, and Mr. Conger of Rockland. The last named gentleman also brought up the subject of the introduction into this country of the Cashmere goat. His account of the animal was very interesting, and we regret we have not space to give more extended notes of his remarks. Mr. Dickinson of Steuben, followed with some spirited remarks on his methods of fruit growing.

The committee of 24 now entered, and Mr. Patterson reported in their behalf the recommendation of UTICA as the place of holding the next Fair. Also the following list of officers:

President.

THEODORE S. FAXTON, Utica, Oneida Co.

Vice-Presidents.

1. JONATHAN THORNE, New-York.
2. EDWARD G. FAILE, Westfarms, West. Co.
3. HERMAN WENDELL, Albany.
4. WILLIAM KNOX, Canajoharie, Montg. Co.
5. ENOCH MARKS, Camillus, Onondaga "
6. FRANCIS M. ROTCH, Lewisville, Otsego "
7. D. W. C. VAN SLYCK, Lyons, Wayne "
8. ALONZO S. UPHAM, Le Roy, Genesee "

Executive Committee.

HUGH CROCKER, Utica.
C. S. WAINRIGHT, Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co.
GEORGE J. J. BARBER, Homer, Cortland
ALARIC HUBBELL, Utica.
JAMES BRODIE, Ellisburgh, Jefferson Co.

Corresponding Secretary.

BENJAMIN P. JOHNSON, Albany.

Recording Secretary.

ERASTUS CORNING, Jr., Albany.

Treasurer.

BENJAMIN B. KIRTLAND, Albany.

It was then moved and the motion after a very short struggle carried, to substitute WATERTOWN for Utica in the report of the Committee, which was then adopted, and the officers unanimously elected as above nominated.

A recess was then had until 8 o'clock, at which hour Dr. FITCH delivered an address on Entomology, for which we regret we cannot make room. He touched upon its importance and reviewed his own labors during the past year, engrossing closely the attention of his hearers. It will be embodied in his report to the Society.

The meeting of the Society the next day was mainly devoted to the reading of the list of Premiums awarded, which are as follows:

FARMS.

- First, John V. Groove, Ovid, Seneca Co. \$50
Second, John Westfall, Lyons, Wayne Co. 30
Third, James McLallen, Trumansburgh. 20

DAIRY AND GRAZING FARMS.

- First, Wm. N. Holmes, Greenwich, Washington Co. 30
Second, Leonard D. Clift, Putnam Co. 20

BUTTER.

1. R. T. Carpenter, Southport, Chemung Co. \$15
 2. J. S. Holbert, Chemung, Chemung Co. 10
 3. Noah Hitchcock, Homer, Cortland Co. 5
 4. R. B. Gibbs, Harpersfield, Delaware Co. S. S. Medal.
- Mrs. Wm. H. Sotham, Owego, Tioga Co., sample winter-made Butter from cows fed on carrots and dry hay. This Butter was superior to any presented for competition. Awarded a large Silver Medal.

CHEESE.

- First, John Gillet, Scott, Cortland Co. \$15
Second, E. F. Carter, Le Ray, Jefferson Co. 10
Third, Clinton Ringe, Homer, Cortland Co. 5
Fourth, Moses Eames, Rutland, Jefferson Co. Trans.

CORN.

- J. V. Grove, Ovid, Seneca Co., 45 21-100 acres of Corn—4441 bushels of ears—special premium, Diploma.

CARROTS.

- First, E. C. Bliss, Westfield, Chatauque Co., 1,280 bus. per acre. \$8
Second, E. C. Bliss, Westfield, Chatauque Co., 1,120 bus. per acre. 5
Third, E. C. Bliss, Westfield, Chatauque Co., 650 bus. per acre. Vol. Trans.
Jos. H. Coons, statement not complete, Vol. Trans.

PEAS.

- First, Norman Gowdy, Lowville, Lewis Co., 52½ bushels per acre. \$8
Second, Asa Otis, Pamela, Jefferson Co. 3

TIMOTHY SEED.

- Lewis Potter, estimated 9½ bus. per acre. Vol. Trans.

CLOVER SEED.

- Wm. P. Outley, 3 33-60 bus. per acre, Vol. Trans.

CORN FODDER.

- E. C. Bliss, Westfield, Chatauque Co. \$3

OATS.

- First, E. M. Bradley, East Bloomfield, 96 8-10 bushels per acre. \$15
Second, E. C. Bliss, Westfield, 5

SPRING WHEAT.

- E. F. Carter, Le Ray, Jefferson Co., 3 acres 3 rods yielded 95½ bush. \$5

DRAINING.

- T. C. Maxwell & Brothers. \$20

DRAINING SWAMP LANDS.

- Wm. J. Johnson, Geneva. \$10

IRRIGATION.

- E. C. Bliss. \$20
Sanford Howard, Boston, Essay on Grasses and Herbage. 40

GRAIN AND SEEDS.

- Best bbl. Spring Wheat, David Hess, Fenner, Mad. Co. \$5
Second do., David Coonrad, Brunswick, Rens. Co. 3
Third do., O. Howland, Auburn. 2
Best bu. Rye, David Coonrad. 5
Second do., Volney Burgess, Chatham, Col. Co. 3
Third do., A. E. Van Allen, Clinton, Rens. Co. 2
Best bbl. four-rowed Barley, O. Howland, Auburn 5
Best bbl. two-rowed do do do 5

Best bbl. Oats, David Hess, Fenner, Madison Co.....	5
Second do., I. W. Briggs, Macedon, Wayne Co.....	3
Third do., David Coonradt.....	2
Best bbl. Yellow Corn, Volney Burgess.....	5
Second do., David Coonradt.....	3
Best bbl. white Corn, do.....	5
Best bbl. Peas, Volney Burgess.....	5
Second do., N. Gowdy, Lowville, Lewis Co.....	3
Best bbl. Beans, David Coonradt.....	5
Second do., H. H. Doolittle, Phelps, Ontario Co.....	3
Third do., O. Howland, Auburn.....	2

DISCRETIONARY PREMIUMS.

J. P. Noxon, White Creek, Wash. Co., Flax Seed.....	\$3
A. E. Van Allen, Clinton, Rens. Co., bbl. Buckwheat....	3

WINTER FRUIT.

Best 20 varieties of Apples, F. Atwater, Ithaca.....	\$4 and Dip.
Second best 20 varieties of Apples, Wm. M. Holmes, Greenwich, Washington Co.....	\$2 and Downing.
Third best 20 varieties of Apples, E. S. Hayward, Rochester.....	Thomas
Best 10 varieties of Apples, David Coonradt.....	\$3 and Dip.
Second best 10 varieties of Apples, R. A. Downs, Greenbush, Rens. Co.....	\$1 and Barry.
Third best ten varieties of Apples, William P. Outley, Ontario Co.....	Trans.
Best dish Apples, F. Atwater, Ithaca.....	S. S. Medall.
Second " " E. S. Hayward, Rochester.....	Trans.
Best collection Winter Pears, A. Saul, Newburgh, Orange County.....	Dip. and S. Medall.
Second best collection of Winter Pears, T. C. Maxwell and Bro., Geneva.....	S. S. Medall.
Best variety Pears, E. Dorr, Albany.....	do
Best specimen Grapes, do.....	do

SPECIAL PREMIUMS—CHOICE FRUITS NOT ENUMERATED.

E. C. Frost, Tompkins King Apples, Catharine, Tompkins Co.....	Vol. Trans.
J. Hildreth, do., Schuyler Co.....	do.
J. V. Grove, do., Seneca Co.....	do.
Wm. P. Outley, Spitzenburghs, Phelps, Ontario Co.....	do.

In the evening the Society met again at the Assembly chamber, and listened to very interesting and instructive addresses from S. W. JOHNSON, of Yale College, and the retiring President Judge CHEEVER, who concluded by introducing the newly elected President, Mr. FAXTON of Oneida, who briefly returned his thanks for the honor conferred.

During the evening Secretary JOHNSON read an invitation to the Society from the Am. Scientific Association to attend its next session in this city in August next. This was accepted, and on motion of Mr. Conger, the Society resolved to unite with the Scientific Association in its invitation to Baron LIEBIG to be present on that occasion.

After the customary vote of thanks to Officers, and to the Assembly for use of its Chamber, the Society adjourned.

THE SHOW AT THE ROOMS.—There was on exhibition at the rooms of the Society, a fine display of Apples, and a good one of other fruits, and a very fair lot of grains, seeds and dairy products. The list of Premiums awarded, will be found above.

The Apples shown included several meritorious collections not mentioned in the Premium List. Among them were those of J. W. BAILEY, Esq., of Plattsburgh, Dr. WENDELL of this city, and D. A. BULKLEY of Williamstown, Mass., and excellent specimens of the Winter King variety from Messrs. Braman, of Ithaca, Hildreth, of Schuyler, and others, and of various other sorts from Messrs. Kirtland of Greenbush, John S. Gould of this city, J. H. Watts of Rochester, R. A. Downs of Blooming Grove, Dr. Elmendorf of Cherry Hill, and others. We give no further names of exhibitors of Pears and Grapes, and of Grains and Seeds, Butter and Cheese, than will be found in the list of premiums, for want of room. Mr. Dorr of this city, showed what most of those present had probably never seen before, Plums in February. Among other curiosities, we may name a portly pair of Onions from Stanford Brothers of Sacramento, Cal., the two weighing in their present dry state only five pounds.

THE NEXT STATE FAIR.—The reader will find on another page, a full account of the doings of the New-York State Ag. Society, at its annual meeting held in this city last week. The attendance was good, though not perhaps as large as on some previous occasions. An excellent spirit was manifested, and though there was some contest about the location of the Fair, all passed off in the most harmonious manner. It will be seen that the committee appointed for that purpose, reported in favor of Utica as the place for the next Fair, which was changed by the Society to WATERTOWN: and at a meeting of the new Executive Committee on Thursday, it was resolved that the New-York State Fair for 1856, be held at Watertown, on the 30th of Sept. and the 1st, 2d and 3d of October—provided the citizens of that place comply with the requirements of the board, previous to the first of April.

The Poultry Show.

The Exhibition of Poultry by the members the "N. Y. State Poultry Society," held in this city last week, was thought an improvement on its predecessors, at least in point of the excellence of the birds shown. The tall sorts from the vicinity of Shanghai, did not prove so monopolizing, nor did they seem to attract more than their due share of attention. They were out in pretty large numbers, however, and perhaps appeared on the whole to better advantage than they have sometimes done. Dorkings, Polands, Spanish, Game, Silver Pencilled Hamburgs (or Bolten Greys,) Golden Hamburgs, Sebright and other Bantams, were all quite well represented. There was a good attendance also of Turkeys, Ducks, Geese and Pigeons.

M. M. Kimmey of Cedar Hill, William Hurst of this city, and D. S. Heffron of Utica, were among the best and most successful exhibitors, the last taking prizes, he informed us, on twelve out of fourteen lots. Mr. Kimmey deserved credit, as did one or two others, for the very neat manner in which his fowls were cooped. He had a pair of Hong Kong geese weighing 45 lbs., and we do not know that these were the heaviest in the room. Mr. Hurst's Sumatra Game Fowls were well worthy a passing notice; the fine assortment of Pigeons shown by C. Benteou, Esq., of Rensselaer Co. attracted considerable attention, as did also the beautiful Rabbits of Messrs. Thomas Gould of Aurora, and E. E. Platt of this city. Messrs. Geo. Anderson and William Frothingham, of Albany, and others whom we cannot now enumerate, showed some very excellent and much creditable stock.

At the Annual Election of Officers of this Society, held at Van Vechten Hall, on the 14th, the following gentlemen were chosen for the ensuing term:

President—E. E. PLATT, Albany.

Vice Presidents—MATTHEW VASSAR, Poughkeepsie; THOMAS GOULD, Aurora; D. S. HEFFRON, Utica.

Cor. Secretary—R. C. MCCORMICK, Jr., N. Y.

Rec. Secretary and Treasurer—M. M. KIMMEY, Cedar Hill.

Managers—C. W. Goddard, Albany; Dr. John Cole, Claverack; George Snyder, Rhinebeck; Dr. C. T. Smith, Goshen; W. Frothingham, Albany; R. H. Avery, Wampsville; Peter T. Peck, Yonkers; T. C. Abrahams, Watervliet; H. G. Hart, Clinton; H. N. Wicks, Albany; A. A. Hudson, Syracuse; D. D. Campfield, Schenectady; E. A. Lawrence, Flushing, L. I.; Samuel Sloan, Brooklyn; William Hurst, Albany; D. B. Haight, Dover Plains; R. H. Van Rensselaer, Morris; C. M. Scofield, Yorkville; S. W. Benedict, Rossville, L. I.; Dr. C. Benteou, Lansingburgh.

On motion, it was resolved that the Fourth Annual Fair of the Society be held at New-York city, during the first week of February next.

A little salt sprinkled in starch while it is boiling, tends to prevent it from sticking; it is likewise good to stir it with a clean spermaceti candle.

Inquiries and Answers.

RUTA BAGAS AFTER CARROTS.—Would it be good policy, or indeed be considered a rotation, to put bagas after a carrot crop? W. J. P.

Experiment must decide the question of our correspondent. We are not aware that the trial for testing it has ever been made. Botanically considered, the two plants are quite dissimilar, the carrot being an umbelliferous plant, and the turnip belonging to the cruciferae. Analysis might be supposed to throw some light on the subject—but the discrepancies of authorities are not very satisfactory. For instance, in a hundred parts of the inorganic constituents of the carrot, Prof. Johnston gives 53 per cent. of potash, and Dr. Salisbury 8½ per cent. only; Johnston gives 14 per cent. of soda, and Salisbury over 40 per cent. These disagreements of doctors, constitute an unsatisfactory basis for building a theory. Consequently we must again recommend our correspondent to make the trial.

TREATISE ON THE GRAPE.—*W. Peters, Freeport, Ill.* For vineyard culture, Buchanan's Treatise is probably the best. It may be had of Saxton & Co., of New-York, for about 75 cents. For the cultivation of the grape in cold houses, Chorlton's is a good practical treatise; and for house culture in general, with and without fire heat, Allen's is best. Chorlton's may be had of Saxton & Co., postage paid, for 50 cents, and Allen's for \$1.00.

WIND-MILLS FOR FARM PURPOSES.—I wish to inquire through the columns of the Gentleman, whether Wind-Mills are successfully applied to threshing grain, as well as furnishing water? I have owned both Wheeler's and Emery's Machines, and I am not altogether satisfied with either—they are very hard on horses, and it is not every horse that will work on them. G. S.

I wish to inquire about Halliday's Wind-Mill. How high will it raise the water from a well 24 feet deep? Must it be immediately over the well? Has this power ever been applied to turning mills, cutting fodder, &c., and with what success? Could one be used for the former purpose and the latter too, at the same time? C. N. B.

Wind-Mills for stationary farm labor, have not been, as yet, much used in this country. Without some self-regulating attachment, they would require too much attention,—unless made too small for most kinds of work. Small four feet wheels have been applied to pumping water from shallow wells to advantage, but do not possess power enough for other purposes.

Halliday's self-regulating wind-mill has been in successful operation for about two years, and if made large enough, would doubtless accomplish the purposes desired, but we do not know how far actual experiments have been made. As threshing requires much power, the smallest sized threshing machine should be chosen for trial. For pumping water, it will of course raise it to any desired height by means of a forcing pump, or 30 feet through a suction pump. The mill need not be over the well, if a bent pipe is attached to the pump.

The newly invented, self-regulating *Vermont Wind-mill*, sold by Fowler & Wells, New-York, is highly spoken of, but probably needs further trial to establish its character for success and durability.

If any of our correspondents have made trial of wind-power, we should be glad to hear the results, in common with many of our readers. The fact that a power greater than that of a thousand horses, is almost constantly operating over every man's farm, should incite to persevering trials for rendering a portion of it available.

CHINESE POTATO, *Dioscorea batatas*—*C. D.* This plant has not been sufficiently tested, to warrant us in advising you to pay the present prices for the plants. It is well for those who take pleasure in testing new plants, whether useful or ornamental, to be at the ex-

pense necessary, and a very few may make it profitable by supplying the demand at high prices, but those who wish them simply for their own cultivation, would do well to wait until the thing is proved valuable. You will find a full account of the *Dioscorea batatas* in the Patent Office Report for 1854, p. 169. The plants can be had of J. M. Thorburn, New-York, or W. R. Prince & Co., Flushing.

✂ A correspondent wishes a cure for corns on horse's feet.

PEARS ON THE APPLE.—Will you please to publish a list of pears, besides the Seckel, that are found to succeed well when grafted on the apple tree? J. W. N. Alexander, N. Y.

We would not recommend, in any case, the propagation of the pear on apple—as a general rule, no sort succeeds well; but the Seckel, Summer Bonchretien, Osband's Summer, and Vicar of Winkfield, grow the best of any we have observed in a very few trials. There are doubtless others which may do as well, but we do not know them.

SEED CORN.—I observe in an article on the Patent Office Report, in No. 158 of the Co. Gent., the Improved King Philip corn is spoken of as very early and very productive, and if the representations are correct it should be extensively disseminated among farmers in this section. I would suggest if any one has any seed of this variety which they would like to dispose of, they would do well to advertise it in the Co. Gent., stating the price at which they will put it up in packages of, say from one quart to one peck, and send it to those who may apply. Wm. F. BASSETT. Ashfield, Mass.

Another correspondent is anxious to know where this variety of corn can be had.

We annex a letter just received, on this subject:

MESSRS. EDS.—I noticed in No. 4 of your paper, that Wm. F. Bassett of Ashfield, inquires for the improved King Philip or Brown corn. Last season I received two packages of corn from the Patent-Office—one called the Baden corn, the other was what he wishes to obtain. I planted the Baden corn May 17th, on good ground. It grew large, but did not ripen well, and would not be profitable to cultivate in this latitude, but might do well in Maryland. The improved King Philip or Brown corn, was planted May 18th. It is an eight-rowed corn, eared low, ripened early, and produced well. I have no doubt but it will prove to be a valuable kind to raise in this vicinity. I intend to distribute (free,) what seed I can spare, and if Mr. Bassett will send me a few postage stamps, I will return them to him by mail on a small package of corn, by which he can obtain the seed. W. E. BOISE. Blandford, Hampden Co., Mass.

BUCKWHEAT AND INDIAN WHEAT.—Will you inform me through the Country Gentleman, if the buckwheat so much cultivated in New-York, is the old kind that has been raised in the country time out of mind, or a new kind that was introduced from Canada about ten or twelve years ago, called *Indian wheat*. The latter is extensively cultivated in Vermont, I am informed, and considered much the most productive, sometimes producing at the rate of 100 bushels to the acre. Which do you consider the best? A. C. Concord,

The buckwheat so extensively grown in this State, is the old and well known variety. We have heard nothing of the "Indian Wheat," for some years, and shall be glad to hear from some of our readers in Vermont, as to its value, productiveness, &c.

TURNIP CUTTER.—*B. E. H.* You will find a good root cutter at the agricultural ware-houses—price \$10.

THE SNAIL.—Can you inform me how to destroy the snail? I believe I have seen the same inquiry in your paper, but no answer to the question. The past season they have proved to me very annoying, attacking all garden vegetables, (except onions,) and not satisfied with the substantials, the scamps must

have a taste of my flowers. The former could be forgiven, but the latter is unpardonable. They would eat all the leaves from the Petunias, Verbenas, and annuals of every kind. They make their appearance about twilight after sundown, and disappear about the same time before sunrise—of all sizes, from one-fourth of an inch to two inches long. I have tried applying whale-oil soap, tobacco water, and ashes. The only effect was, where the application touched a snail, the snail would cast off a slimy covering, and move on a short distance, and commence operations anew. I have applied salt to them, after collecting a quantity of them together, which was effectual in destroying them; but this was very much like catching birds by putting salt on their tails. In these days a more rapid method of extermination is desirable. Can you help me to it? DWIGHT H. CLARK. *Oxford, N. Y.*

Fresh ashes have usually proved the best remedy for the slug. If any of our correspondents know of anything better, we should be glad to hear from them.

DRAIN TILE.—*B. E. H.* You will find some remarks on laying tile in the *Co. Gent.*, vol. 6, p. 124; but the manufacturers will send directions with the tile. We are not aware that it is for sale in New-York city, nor do we know of a place where it is made, nearer you than Albany.

PEARS—*O. J.* "Vicar of Winkfield," is the true name—not Vicar of Wakefield.

ORANGE WATERMELON—*S. B.*, Plainfield, Ind.—You can get a paper of the seed of this melon, by enclosing 25 cents in a letter to I. W. BRIGGS, P. M., West Macedon, Wayne Co., N. Y.

MOVING WEST—*C. Gardner.* We cannot find the paragraph to which you refer, and have no information on the subject.

THE LEVERIDGE WILLOW.—Will you tell me whether cattle will eat the foliage of the new Leveridge, (properly Beveridge, named after the Newburgh brewer by Dr. Grant, who imported the willow,) so much recommended for Hedges? A. A. B. [Will some of the cultivators of this willow, answer the above?]

BREEDING HORSES.—Will you have the kindness to answer through *The Cultivator*, a few questions respecting horse breeding. To what age may mares be used for the above purpose? Will mares, twenty or twenty-five years old, bring colts? Is the ringbone, spavin or any other disease hereditary? EQUUS. [We shall be glad to hear from any of our readers in answer to the above.]

DISEASE IN SHEEP.—I had 66 good lambs when I weaned them, and before the 1st November 20 had died. They discharged a great deal of yellow matter from the nose, and snivelled or snored when breathing, as if the nose was nearly stopped up. I had one lamb die last week, from, I suppose, costiveness or constipation and inflammation of the bowels. It stretched its hind and fore feet as far asunder as it could. It eat nothing for a week till the day before it died, when it went out and picked some grass. I gave it a dose of salts and a little ginger, each day, the last four days, but they did not purge it. It was a fine, thrifty lamb. The best sheep I ever had, died of the same complaint, stretching, &c. What should I have done in all these cases? JOHN J. CRAIG. *North Madison, Ind.*

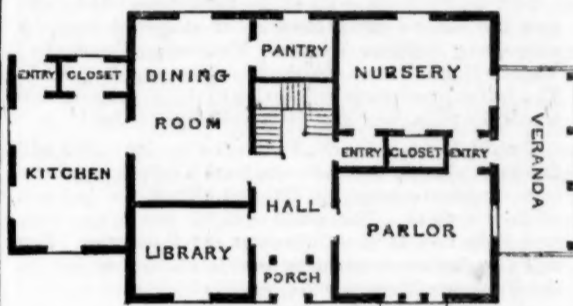
COAL FOR POUDETTE.—I should like to know, if any use could be made of bituminous coal dust in making home-made poudrette. I can get any quantity of it for nothing, and I want something for that purpose, in the place of swamp muck, which I cannot get here without great expense. I tried coal ashes on my potatoes, saturated with house slops, &c., but could not see any difference. W. W. *Jubilee, Ill.*

It is its absorbing or sponge-like quality that gives charcoal its value in the manufacture of poudrette; mineral coal is deficient in this quality, and is conse-

quently of little value for this purpose. Probably the best thing our correspondent can procure in abundance, (and it is perhaps quite equal, if not superior to swamp muck,) is old-pasture turf, or turf cut out from fence-corners, where it is of no value. If piled up under a coarse shed, so as to become quite dry, its absorbent value would be much increased. After having rotted in the heap, it may be easily pulverized before using, which would be best, but not indispensable; otherwise the compost or manufactured poudrette should be pulverized afterwards. Even well-dried soil or loam, would answer a good purpose in forming this compost, probably as well as muck.

PLAN OF A HOUSE.—Could not you or some of my brother subscribers, give me a design for a small house with four rooms—a drawing-room, dining-room, library, and bed-chamber, all on one floor, the house one story high. I. E. O. *Buckingham Co., Va.*

The accompanying plan will perhaps meet the wishes of our correspondent. He says nothing of a kitch-



en—an indispensable apartment in every house. Possibly he intends a basement kitchen; if so, the wing in the plan may be omitted—it saves, however, many steps and much fatigue, to place the kitchen on a level with the principal floor.

The plan needs little explanation. The parlor and bed-chamber, (or nursery,) both open on the veranda, through a small entry for the exclusion of the direct cold air in winter. If desired, another veranda may be placed in front of the hall, library and parlor, extending about two-thirds the length of the three, or the present one may be omitted.

The places for chimneys are not shown in the plan. Stoves or open fire-places may warm the nursery and parlor, by placing the chimney at the inner end of the closet between them; and the dining-room and library be similarly warmed by a chimney in the partition which separates them.

An improvement in the plan we have given, would be made by using the kitchen "closet" for a pantry, with a door opening from it directly into the dining-room; and using the "pantry" for a china-closet.

CLEANING APPLE SEED.—I have read your reply to an inquiry on this subject; but we want something by which the work can be done with less labor, and you would oblige me by inquiring among your readers for the best plan to clean apple seeds from pomace—by a rotary motion in water if possible. W. D.

DEVON BULL.—A subscriber in Canada East, wishes to purchase "a first-rate thorough-bred Devon bull." Any person having such an animal to dispose of, may address, post-paid, "Edmund Longley, Esq., Waterloo, Shefford Co., C. E."

WYANDOTTE CORN.—Will you or some one of your correspondents, please inform me with regard to the Wyandotte corn, obtained by Mr. J. R. Thomas of Waverly, Illinois, from the Wyandotte Indians? Will it grow as far north as Essex Co., Mass., and where can some seed be obtained? E. J. D. *Rowley, Mass.*

In the *Prairie Farmer* of Feb. 7, we find the following notice of this corn, which will serve as an answer to our correspondent, as well as enlighten all our readers on the subject:

"Some time ago we penned a brief caution in regard to this large new humbug; but it would appear that something more ought to be said on the subject. "The Wyandotte," or South-Western Squaw Corn, is one of those varieties of *soft* white corn in much favor with the Indians for home consumption, as it is easily made ready for use without the aid of a mill. Indeed, it is more than probable that it cannot be kept long, if reduced to meal; and it is equally certain that it will not do for shipping in *any form*, being almost, if not quite, destitute of the oil so necessary to its preservation in bulk. There can be no doubt, however, that as far south as Morgan county, in this state, the variety will ripen reasonably well, though probably not much, if any, north of there. But *when ripened*, it is fit only for distilling, or for starch; it cannot be kept in bulk, and is too tasteless for bread; though for making whiskey it may prove valuable, and yet we doubt even that, and warn our readers against planting it, except as an experiment."

SHEPHERD DOGS.—B. F. B., Shiawasse, Mich., can gain the desired information about shepherd dogs, by addressing William Wiggins, Wellsburg, Brooke Co., Va., or John Brown, Waverly, Chemung Co., N. Y. The latter gentleman informs us that his price is \$20 a pair for pups, and \$50 for a well-trained dog.

BROOM CORN.—G. W. T., Scott Co., Ky. You will find two valuable articles—one from Kentucky and one from Connecticut—at pp. 330 and 410, of the last vol. of the Co. Gent. The same articles are in the Jan. and Feb. nos. of the Cultivator for this year. You will also find an interesting article on the subject in the Farmer's Encyclopedia, p. 351.

PLANTING WILLOWS.—N. D. To plant an acre, the rows three feet apart, and plants one foot apart in the rows, as directed by Mr. Corning, in the article to which you refer, would require 14,520 cuttings. You will find an advertisement in the same no. of the paper that contains Mr. C.'s article, giving the price of cuttings.

SPLITTING ROCKS OR BOULDERS.—I would like to make an inquiry through *The Cultivator*, whether you, or any of your subscribers, know of any chemical composition, by applying fire or other means, that will break large rocks or boulders. If so, it would be of great value to many sections of our country. J. J. P. Ann-Arbor, Mich.

Build a hot fire on the rock, and the expansion by heat will split off large fragments. By immediately removing these with a crow-bar, so that the fire can act on the remainder; other portions will be separated, until the rock is broken up. We know of no better way, but would be glad to receive any information from our correspondents, furnishing an improvement on this mode.

DRAINING WITH RAILS.—I observe J. B. S.'s remarks on the use of rails for filling underground drains. Will he inform me how many rails he lays in the bottom, as well as how wide and deep his drains are, and what he covers them with, to prevent the soil from filling up the passage for the water. D. D. Winfield, Ind.

INQUIRY.—I have a fine three-quarter South Down buck that has been discharging through his nostrils, a thick watery substance, for about three months, and loses flesh with extra care and feed. Can you or any of your numerous readers inform me of the cause, name, and cure of the disease? JOHN R. SMITH. Hawleyville, Ct.

SUBSOIL PLOW.—I am desirous of starting a subsoil plow the coming spring, and would of course like to purchase the most efficient implement. The two for sale here, are Ruggles, Nourse & Mason's, and Prof. Mapes'. From a close examination, the former seems to me the best, but the Professor's claims, backed by the N. Y. Tribune, would lead one to infer that his was vastly superior to any other in use. Can you, or some of your correspondents, give me some light on

this important subject; not forgetting to back assertions with the reasons therefor. Or if there is a *better* and *cheaper* subsoil plow than either, to be bought, I should like to know it. TERRA NOVA.

MICHIGAN PLOW.—In using the Michigan plow, how many years may elapse before it will be necessary to plow again with it? To use it every year, would hardly pay, as we have to put on four horses. The rich soil of the prairies goes 2 feet, on my farm. W. W. Jubilee, Ill.

The answer to this question must depend entirely on circumstances. In many instances it will be eminently profitable and convenient to use the Michigan plow every year that a crop is planted; if for example, by keeping a deep bed of mellow soil, drouth is avoided, and the corn crop increased by 20 or 30 bushels per acre, the addition of two horses, per acre, would be a small comparative item of expense. In other cases, by turning under a fertile top-soil, and bringing up a sterile sub-soil, the *immediate* result might be decidedly unfavorable; and the difficulty would need the remedy of manuring this fresh upper stratum, or turning it back again, according to circumstances—a permanent benefit, however, resulting from this deepening process. The general benefit is from the *deeper* soil that is formed, the greater depth to which manure is mixed, the deeper bed of fertility for the extension of roots, and safety from drouth and excessive moisture. Frequent plowing will keep up this condition best.

Extracts from Correspondence.

SOAKING SEEDS IN TOBACCO WATER.—Mr. T. MORSE of Fairfield, Vt., writes us that he tried soaking his seed corn in tobacco water, to prevent wire worms from eating it. On examining it two or three days after planting, he found the worms were eating it very badly. He then planted some unsoaked. They eat that also, but seemed to prefer that which had been soaked. Our correspondent having some of the soaked seed left, scattered it over a piece planted near the barn. The hens ate it the same day, but did not venture on the lot again.

SEEDS FROM THE PATENT OFFICE.—A subscriber in Franklin County, Vt., says—"I received a few of the Champion Pea. They did not come up well, but what did grow were early and excellent. My Hungarian spring wheat did not come up well, but it spread remarkably, very much like winter wheat, but it had only now and then a head—in short, was a failure. The Trefoil also proved a failure."

TROUT IN PONDS.—Should you or any of your readers, be in possession of information respecting the propagation of trout in ponds made for the purpose, a few hints on the subject would no doubt be of interest to your readers generally, and would much oblige one who well remembers the happy hours of his boyhood spent in catching those fresh water beauties, once so plentiful in the streams of this neighborhood, but now becoming scarce from the saw-dust or from some other unknown cause. W. P. Whitby, C. W.

KANSAS—TROUBLE IN HORSES—AGRICULTURE, &c.—Extract from a letter from Dr. JOHN DOY, dated Lawrence, Kansas, Jan. 15th—"As regards the farm, I am sorry to say, the epidemic among cattle, especially horses, rages fearfully. Numbers have died around us. I lost a large, fine horse by it. First his appetite failed, then he would turn his head around every now and then, and in about three hours appeared by his actions blind, walking over corn shocks, bogs, &c., although when my hand was near his eyes, he winked, showing he was not. It is a singular disease, and appears to be devastating this land of cattle. It is said that sod corn is the cause."

Our surveys are going on; township lines are run,

* Perhaps a remedy for this disease may be found in Country Gentleman, vol. vi, p. 349.

from which private surveys are made. In some cases three houses or squatters are found on one claim; therefore the local land office will find some work ahead. As to weather, we have been deceived. Christmas 1854, we wore no coats while at work—1855, the mercury was 22° below zero—in fact we have had a month thus far, of hard winter weather, with two inches of snow most of the time, and how much longer it will continue this deponent saith not. Although I have read so much about fencing I cannot decide what is cheapest for a fence, for four years, here, as timber is not very plenty, (lumber \$30 per 1000)—but, after that time I am satisfied the Osage Orange hedge will turn the cattle. My seed is already undergoing the freezing process preparatory to sowing. But I must close, with an offer of \$1 for a full sized *Dioscorea Japonica*, through the Post Office of course, and I will pay the postage."

THE CLOVER SEED CROP.—You request your correspondents to give you some account of the crop of seed clover in their neighborhoods. In reply I would say the crop has never been so light in this section within my recollection. The drouth in the fall of 1854, or the ensuing cold winter, destroyed the greater part of the clover, so that there was but little clover cut for hay or seed. I observed some fine fields in Bucks Co., Pa., but the wet weather, during the summer and fall, caused it to grow too rank, and other grasses to spring up, so that many fields were cut for hay instead of seed. As you remark, a miscrop of clover seed is truly a national calamity. JOHN W. LEQUEAR. *Frenchtown, N. J.*

WINTER IN INDIANA.—I have been a resident of the State of Indiana for 40 years, and I do not recollect of there ever being as cold a winter as the present. It has been six weeks to-day, (Feb. 4,) since genuine hard winter commenced, and the end is not yet. To-day the mercury is 24 degrees below zero. Not only the peach buds, but the peach trees are all killed, and a great many of the apple trees are split from 2 to 4 feet by the hard freezing. There has not been one soft day in six weeks. Had it not been for the snow, which is one foot deep, the wheat would have been all killed. H. H. A. *Rockville, Ind.*

KENTUCKY FARMING.—One of our subscribers in Daviess county, writes as follows: "My farm of 400 acres, has only been reclaimed from the forest eight or ten years, and could not be improved by manuring, but I aim by clovering, small grain, grazing and hog feeding, to keep it up to its natural fertility. I raised this year, 140 acres corn, 60 acres oats, 30 acres timothy hay, 50 acres clover. I also raised and fattened 35,000 lbs. pork, nett weight, and have fattened for market 25 head cattle."

A correspondent in New-Hampshire, thus alludes to one of the reasons why so little progress is made in agricultural improvement: "The old folks at home, can barely raise enough for themselves, while their farms are sadly running behind hand, and things will be going from bad to worse, until our young men think it as respectable to work at farming, as it is to measure tape and draw molasses, or to patrol the country, tin trunk in hand, peddling nick-nacks."

PORK FROM SKIM-MILK.—A Pennsylvania correspondent replies to the doubt recently expressed by a writer in this paper, about 100 lbs. pork being made from the skim-milk of a cow in seven months, by saying that if the writer "will call on Gen. J. S. GOE, at Tippecanoe, Pa., he will come to a different conclusion, as he may there see a Durham calf that at 4 months and 10 days old, weighed 590 lbs., and it got but one half of its mother's milk, and he will see more than one cow that will make 100 lbs. of pork from the skim milk alone, and at the end of the seven months will be shown a lot of butter that would surprise him, and perhaps Mr. GOE will be able to satisfy him of some more good qualities of his fine herd of Durhams."

Notes for the Month.

LIGHT WANTED ON WILLOWS.—A statement is going the rounds of the agricultural and other papers, that basket willow is imported into this country to the amount of five or six millions of dollars' worth annually, and recommending the willow crop for general cultivation. In the last volume of the Statistics of our Commerce and Navigation, on the 220th page, the amount of manufactured willow imported, is put down at \$132,658—of unmanufactured, at \$45,459. Is there any other willow imported than that which is published in this volume by Congress? Are these figures reliable? If there is only \$45,000 worth of the raw material imported, and if that is a good index of the present demand for willow, will not the extensive willow planters, who have gone into the business upon the belief that there is an unlimited demand for it, be greatly disappointed? What is the origin of this six million statement? Is there another multicaulis speculation in the wind? As you editors know every thing, please enlighten one of THE PUBLIC.

With our correspondent, we ask for light on this subject. We cannot, however, believe that there is intentional deception. We have not been able to refer to any official documents, but all writers, including one in Hunt's *Merchants' Magazine*, which we have been able to find, place the amount at from three to five millions. The *New-York Tribune* of Jan. 29, says—"The importation of basket willows amounts to about \$5,000,000 annually." The document quoted by our correspondent, ought to be correct, as it comes from the Treasury Department of the United States. If it is correct, whence has arisen this great error, by which \$178,117 has been magnified into millions?

P. S. The *Tribune* of Feb. 1, says—"We are requested by a merchant in the trade to state that the importation of Osiers, set down in the statistical report at five million dollars, is simply fifty thousand—two cyphers too many being added. This bit of information may save many persons from an Osier fever."

YIELD OF MILK.—One of the most note-worthy statements under the head of *Dairies*, in the last Patent Office Report, is that of Josiah Southwick of Erie Co., N. Y., who has given a table showing the number of quarts of milk given by six cows during the year 1854. The highest quantity given by one cow, was 2,765 quarts, and the smallest quantity was 1,902 quarts—the average of the whole being 2,282. The milk was sold at the nearest railroad station, for just one-half the retail price in Buffalo, and at this rate the cow giving the most milk, yielded an income of \$51.49, and the cow giving the least milk, yielded an income of \$34.30, while the average of the whole six was \$41.75. The value of the cows in Buffalo, would have been nearly double the sums above given.

DEATH OF DR. T. W. HARRIS.—DR. THADDEUS W. HARRIS, the well-known entomologist, died at Cambridge, Mass., of dropsy on the chest, on the 16th. Dr. H. has been for many years librarian of Harvard University, a position which enabled him to pursue his favorite studies with great advantage. His work on "Insects Injurious to Vegetation," as well as his frequent contributions to our agricultural and horticultural journals, have been of great benefit to this branch of science.

THE RIGHT SPIRIT.—A subscriber in St. Lawrence County, in remitting his subscription, says—"My rule is to pay down. I began the world with my hands and very little else, but sticking close to the rule I adopted, have accumulated a handsome fortune by farming; and I think it the most independent business there is. I have thought of writing you something about my

progress, but as farming alone has been my occupation, the fear of error in composition has deterred me. If you will agree to make the necessary corrections, you may possibly hear from me. The art of farming has been a great study with me. The reason so many fail in farming, is because they do not understand the trade." We hope our friend will tell our readers how he has succeeded in acquiring wealth by farming, as what has been done by one can be done by another. We will make all the corrections necessary in his language.

BLOODY MURRAIN.—"A Subscriber" at Rockaway, N. J., thinking that "an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure," informs us, on the authority of one of his neighbors, that it is only necessary to "bleed a calf on the first Friday of its life," to prevent it ever having the bloody murrain. "Now," said my neighbor, "I do not suppose there is anything peculiar in the day of the week selected for the bleeding, but I cannot doubt the utility of letting blood during the first week of a calf's existence to prevent murrain, and I shall always do it." The loss of the little blood that will escape from a cut in the ear or tail, may not injure the calf, but the idea that it will have any effect in preventing the attacks of disease in future years, can only be believed by the credulous.

PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING AGRICULTURE.—At a recent meeting of this Society, arrangements were made preparatory to the commemoration of the 71st anniversary of its existence, which will occur on the 11th of Feb. At the same meeting the following officers were elected for this year: President, DAVID LANDRETH—Vice Presidents, Aaron Clement, Anthony T. Newbold—Treasurer, Geo. Blight,—Corresponding Secretary, Sydney G. Fisher—Recording Secretary, A. L. Kennedy, M. D., Assistant Recording Secretary, P. R. Freas—Librarian, John M'Gowan—Executive Committee, Dennis Kelly, John M'Gowan, Charles W. Harrison, A. S. Roberts, John Lardner.

We have received the Address of CHARLES B. CALVERT, Esq., before the Frederick Co. (Md.) Ag. Society, at their third exhibition last fall. It is a more than usually valuable contribution to agricultural literature, is sound in the substance of its views, and forcible in the manner of presenting them. We shall take an early opportunity to give some extracts.

—Also that of Dr. G. EMERSON, before the Newcastle Co. (Del.) Ag. Society. It is devoted to the subject of guano and other special fertilizers, and treats of their use in a very sensible way. Dr. E. also alluded feelingly to the recent death of C. P. HOLCOMB, an active member of that Society, and always a prominent friend of agriculture.

PRIZE ESSAYS.—The Putnam Co. Ag. Society last year offered two premiums of \$50 and \$20, for the best two essays on the agriculture of the county—its defects and the best means for its improvement. The prizes were awarded for the first, to THOS. B. ARDEN, Esq., of Beverly, and for the second, to JOSEPH G. COLE, Esq. They have been printed in a pamphlet of fifty pages, for copies of which we are indebted to several of our friends. This pamphlet should be placed in the hands of every farmer in that county; and if they will study it as they should, and act upon its suggestions, an impetus will be given to improvement which will in a few years produce a great and beneficial change in the farming interests of old Putnam.

SHANGHAIS.—We published an inquiry a few weeks since, as to where pure Shanghai fowls were to be had, and stated that those who had them for sale could have "the privilege of our advertising columns to answer the inquiry." But all those who have sent us answers, seem to have overlooked the fact that the "privilege of our advertising columns," costs 12½ cents

per line. We hope such of our correspondents as wish to advertise anything in our papers, will remember this fact.

KING PHILIP CORN.—Mr. Lawrence, whose communication on the subject we publish this week, informs us that he can furnish a small quantity of the seed of this corn, to those who wish to try it. *Query*—Is not this the same corn which was so much praised in the agricultural journals, under the name of "Brown Corn," a few years since?

LONG-WOOLED SHEEP.—Mr. E. C. DUDLEY of Meridian, Cayuga county, passed through this city last week, with a lot of long woolled sheep, which he had purchased of LAWRENCE SMITH, Esq. of Middlefield, Mass., consisting of seven ewes and two ewe lambs. They were good specimens of this breed of sheep.

POTATOES.—Mr. S. H. WILLIAMS of New-Hartford, Oneida county, furnishes us with the results of some experiments to ascertain how many potatoes he could raise from one. He planted four potatoes on new land, never plowed—soil black sandy loam—with the following result: No. 1—cut into 57 pieces—one eye to each piece—two pieces in hill—product 58 lbs. No. 2, 48 pieces, two to a hill—product 53 lbs. No. 3, 53 pieces, product 52 lbs. No. 4, 40 pieces—product 38½ lbs. Nos. 1, 2 and 3, were Mr. Goodrich's seedling, known as the "Purple Chili," and the fourth, a variety called "Leopard." The potatoes were all sound. He tried several other kinds, but these produced the most.

We are indebted to J. W. BOYDEN, Esq., Sec'y Hampshire Co. (Mass.) Ag. Society, for the Transactions of that Society for 1855. It embraces the Address, by C. L. FLINT, Sec'y Mass. Board of Agriculture, the Reports of Committees, Statements of applicants for Premiums, &c., forming a valuable pamphlet of 72 pages.

CONNECTICUT STATE AG. SOCIETY.—At the recent Annual Meeting the following officers for 1856 were elected:

President—NATHANIEL B. SMITH, Woodbury. *Vice-Presidents*—Charles H. Pond, Milford; Norman Porter, Berlin.

Directors—H. A. Grant, Enfield; B. A. Andrews, Waterbury; Erastus Williams, of Norwich; R. B. Chamberlain, Coventry; Theodore S. Gold, West Cornwall; Amos D. Lockwood, West Killingly; Brainard Montague, Middletown; Eliakam Hough, Bridgeport.

Corresponding Secretary—H. A. Dyer, Brooklyn. *Recording Secretary*—John A. Porter, New-Haven. *Treasurer*—Nathaniel A. Bacon, New-Haven.

The Wool-Growers' Association of Western New-York, give notice that their 2d exhibition will be held at Penn-Yan, commencing on the 27th of May next. A Premium List, amounting to \$1000, it is said, is about to be issued.

NEW-JERSEY STATE AG. SOCIETY.—The Annual Meeting was held at Trenton, on the 15th of January. The Treasurer's report shows the whole amount of cash received to have been \$7,288.98. Expenses for premiums, &c., \$6,972.23, leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of \$315.74.

The following is a list of the officers for the ensuing year:

President—Wm. P. Robeson.

Vice Presidents—1st Dist.—John R. Sickler. 2d do.—Thomas Bell. 3d do.—James Campbell. 4th do.—Benjamin Ayerigg. 5th do.—George Hartshorne.

Executive Committee—Atlantic—Edmund Taylor; Burlington—John C. Deacon; Bergen—Col. J. Holman; Camden, Edward Bettle; Cape May—Downes Edmunds, Jr.; Cumberland—Charles Elmer; Gloucester—Charles Reeves; Hunterdon—P. H. Hoffman; Mercer—Isaac R. Pullen; Middlesex—James Buckalew; Monmouth—Nathaniel S. Rue; Morris—Dr.

Wm. Kitchell; Ocean—Wm. Torry; Passaic—Thomas G. Ayerigg; Salem—Wm. B. Otis; Sussex—G. C. Shaw; Somerset—Peter A. Voorhees; Warren—Dr. J. Marshall Paul.

The "South-Western Agricultural and Mechanical Association" at Louisville, Kentucky, held their fourth meeting in January last. The success of this Society has been great, as we learn from a report of its management. Commencing some four years since, under a debt of nearly \$50,000, it has, with three exhibitions, reduced its indebtedness to about \$13,000, having in the mean time paid out in premiums some \$3,000 each year, and owning now about 40 acres of land near the city, beautifully improved for their show grounds. At the January meeting, Col. GEORGE HANCOCK was unanimously elected President; and L. Young, W. Miller, and G. Mallory, Esq., Vice Presidents. This society has two exhibitions in the year—in May and October.

BROOKFIELD TOWN AG. SOCIETY.—The annual meeting for the election of officers for the Brookfield Ag. Society, was held Jan. 8th, 1856, when the following officers were elected:

President—HERMAN A. HULL.

1st Vice President—Jerod Cheesbro.

2d do. Morgan L. Brown.

Secretary—A. L. Saunders.

Treasurer—John T. G. Bailey.

Ex. Committee—Peleg Stanbro, Jr., David L. Fisk, Tillinghast Gorton, Christopher Langworthy, Lewis D. Maxson, Gerrett Scott, Paul B. Burch, Chauncey V. Hibbard, and Luther Wheeler.

The Treasurer's Report was as follows:

Cash in treasury from last year,	\$360.78
Receipts during the Fair,	473.12
Use of Tent by Lebanon Ag. Society,	20.00
Interest on surplus money,	22.16
	\$876.06
Expended for new tent,	\$250.00
Expenses of Fair and Premiums,	321.02
Secretary's salary,	20.00
	\$591.02

Balance in the treasury Jan. 8th, 1856,\$285.04
A. L. SAUNDERS, Sec'y.

AN INQUIRY SUCCESSFULLY ANSWERED.—A subscriber to both the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN and THE CULTIVATOR at Quebec, subjoins the following note to a business letter: I beg leave to thank you for your prompt and ready insertion, both in the CULT. and CO. GENT., of the few lines I did myself the pleasure to address you some ten or twelve weeks since, inquiring for a cure for "warts" on horses; as well as for your publication of the several replies thereto; all of them I believe good. I am now reaping the fruit of your complaisance and their experience, in the almost total recovery of a fine mare from these ugly, unseemly excrescences, and painful excrescences. She is now in foal. T. N. S. [We are equally happy to publish both queries and responses from our subscribers. The puzzled, or the enlightened, on any point, common or curious, will please bear in mind. Eds.]

THE LARGEST AND SMALLEST TREE.—We furnished a description a few weeks since, of one of the largest California trees, (*Sequoia gigantea*), measuring forty feet in diameter, and over four hundred feet high, and furnishing as much timber as sixty acres of good woodland in the State of New-York. This tree is computed to have been in existence as long ago as the time of the prophet Elijah. A striking contrast to this immense colossus, is afforded by some of the minute specimens of mountain growth. In ascending to lofty elevations, forest trees continue to become more diminutive, and Dr. Emmons mentions in his Geological Report, that evergreen trees are found on the Adirondack mountains, only five or six inches high; while Hum-

boldt saw pines only three-tenths of an inch in height. The Californian monster was no less than fifteen thousand times higher than Humboldt's lilliputians; and if both were of about the same shape or degree of slenderness in form, the solid measure or weight of the one (or cube of 15,000,) would exceed that of the other, three million millions of times!

MEAT FOR NEW-YORK.—The New-York Tribune furnishes some interesting statistics in relation to the number of animals slaughtered in New-York, for the purpose of supplying the city with meat, during the year 1855. The total number is as follows:

Beeves,	185,574
Milch Cows,	12,110
Calves,	47,960
Sheep and Lambs,	558,741
Swine,	320,637

Total,1,155,021

New-York and Ohio were the only states from which animals were present on every market day through the year. Of the number of beeves sold,

Ohio furnished,	32,135
New-York,	25,630
Illinois,	17,439
Kentucky,	7,057
Indiana,	6,677
Virginia,	2,044
Pennsylvania,	1,306
Connecticut,	500

BRIGHTON MARKET.—The sales at this market, near Boston, for 1855, are stated as follows:

65,050 Beef Cattle, estimated at,	\$3,512,700
16,925 Stores,	524,985
216,420 Sheep,	833,217
71,222 Swine,	587,565
	\$5,458,467

Pro Bono Publico. Brownsville, Tenn., has our thanks for the paper of Orange Watermelon seed, received last week. We have divided it into parcels of one dozen seeds, and sent them to those who had applied to us for seed.

LARGE SALE OF MULES.—A Kentucky paper states that Lewis Castleton, Esq., of Fayette county, recently sold ninety two-year old and one hundred yearling mules, for the round sum of \$26,000.

THE SUBSCRIBER

WILL give one or more persons of character, means and talent for farming, an equal chance with himself on a farm of about 700 acres. It is in a beautiful and healthy location on one of the most beautiful and fertile prairies of the West. Timber, schools and meetings, are convenient. It is well adapted to grain and stock.

Mt. Vernon Seminary (one of the most prosperous institutions of learning in Iowa,) is within eight miles.

For further particulars, address the subscriber at Fairview, Jones Co., Iowa. S. G. MATSON.

Feb. 21—mlt.

SALAEERATUS.

THE subscribers offer to the trade Salaeratus of different grades of strength, which they claim to be superior in quality to any other in market, and entirely free from any deleterious ingredients.

We are the only Manufacturers whose process of manufacture is conducted under the immediate superintendence of an experienced practical chemist. Having been engaged for several years in the manufacture of our peculiar kind of Salaeratus, and being the originator of those manufactured, we can offer to consumers a guarantee of its great excellence, which no other manufacturer can do; the new kinds of Salaeratus pompously set forth, under various names, in different advertisements, being merely imitations of the article we originally introduced to the public.

We warrant the quality of all goods sold by us, and agree to return the purchase money, together with expenses of transportation, on every article that proves to be inferior to our representation of its quality.

JOHN DWIGHT & CO.,
No. 112 Pearl-st., New-York,

Feb. 21—m3t*

The Tompkins County King Apple.

TREES of a suitable size for planting, of this variety, and also the SCIONS can be obtained of A. BRAMAN, Ithaca, Tompkins County, N. Y. Feb. 21—w3mlt*

BONE DUST,

GROUND, Turnings and Sawings.
For sale by A. LONGETT,
34 Cliff-st., corner of Fulton, New-York.
Feb. 27—w8tm3t

SPECKLED DORKINGS

AND Fancy Lop-Eared Rabbits, carefully boxed and delivered at the Express Office, Utica, at \$5 each. For sale by R. H. VAN RENSSLAER,
Morris, Otsego Co., N. Y.
Feb. 27—w3tm3t

Superphosphate of Lime,

OF the best Brands.
For sale by A. LONGETT,
Feb. 27—w8tm3t 34 Cliff Street, New-York.

Farmers' and Planters' Encyclopedia.

THE new and improved edition of this valuable book is in one volume, octavo, handsomely bound in Russia leather. It contains about 1200 closely printed pages, and is illustrated with numerous plates, of animals, plants, implements, etc.

The Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, President of the United States Agricultural Society, in a letter to the American Editor, G. Emerson of Philadelphia, says:

"After an attentive examination of your Farmers' and Planters' Encyclopedia, I take pleasure in recommending it as a standard work, abounding in practical and scientific information adapted to the comprehension of unscientific readers. A copy should be in the hands of every farmer or person at all interested in rural affairs. It is peculiarly well suited to the purposes of a premium book for distribution by Agricultural Societies, and in this way may be placed in the hands of many that it would not otherwise be likely to reach. In the publication of this work you have contributed greatly to promote the diffusion among our countrymen, of the best agricultural information, arranged in the most convenient form for ready reference.

Boston, April 7th, 1855."

To be had at the principal book stores in the U. S. On receipt of \$4.00 by Luther Tucker & Son, Albany, N. Y., C. M. Saxton & Co., 140 Fulton-st., New-York, or D. Landreth & Co., 21 South 6th-st., Philadelphia, a copy will be forwarded to any part of the United States, free of charge for postage or carriage. A liberal discount made to Agricultural Societies or Clubs taking a number of copies.

Feb. 21—w1tmeom2t

To Farmers and Gardeners.

THE subscriber offers for sale a new and very early SEEDLING POTATO of his own raising, which for productiveness, hardness, early maturity, and fine qualities for the table, is believed to be superior to any other variety in cultivation.

It has now been cultivated for four years, and every year has produced a large crop of sound tubers.

It is a white potato, and being larger and more productive than the "Early June," will be found particularly valuable for the market gardener, as it is quite as early as that variety. In testing the comparative value of this potato, the undersigned has made no attempt, by high manuring and extra cultivation, to produce a few hills of large potatoes, but in every instance it has been planted in the field with the "Early June" and other varieties, and in sufficient quantities to give it a fair trial; at the same time giving it the ordinary field cultivation. Under these circumstances, and notwithstanding the extreme drouth of 1854, it has in no season produced less than two hundred bushels to the acre, while in some it has produced three hundred.

Price \$4 per barrel, delivered at the R. R. Depot or Steamboat Landing at Hudson.

References—S. K. Hogeboom and Wm. F. Miller, Esqs., Claverack. Address E. G. STUDLEY,
Jan. 31—w2tm3t Claverack, Col. Co., N. Y.

The Devon Herd Book—Vol. III.

THE subscriber is now ready to receive lists of animals for insertion in the third volume of the Devon Herd-Book, to be published at as early a period in the year 1856 as a sufficient number of subscribers can be obtained to warrant the issue. Terms: each patron is expected to take at least one copy, the price of which will be one dollar, and also to pay twenty-five cents for the registry of each animal—registry fee to be paid in advance. All animals to be eligible for insertion must be able to trace their descent from unquestionable North Devon stock on both sides.

It will be recollected that there has already been published an American edition of the first and second volumes of the Devon Herd-Book, bound together, with a frontispiece of the Quarterly Testimonial, and containing two handsome illustrations of English prize Devons. The price for these two volumes will in future be two dollars. They will be forwarded as may be directed on the reception of the above sum.

SANFORD HOWARD,

American Editor of the Devon Herd-Book.
Office of the Boston Cultivator,
Boston, Mass., January 19th, 1855. } Feb. 7—w3tm1t

A NEW WORK.**Gardening for the South.**

BY W. N. WHITE, of Athens, Georgia. A most complete manual for every department of Horticulture, embracing the Vegetable Garden, the Fruit Garden, the Flower Garden, and the Pleasure Grounds, adapted particularly to the Southern States. Price \$1.25.

To be obtained of all Booksellers, or sent by us prepaid to any part of the Union on receipt of price.

C. M. SAXTON & CO.,
Agricultural Book Publishers, 140 Fulton-st., New-York.
March—mlt.

**C. M. SAXTON & CO.'S
AGRICULTURAL BOOK ROOMS.**

140 FULTON STREET, NEW-YORK.

OUR NEW BOOKS FOR MARCH.

WE HAVE just published the following important books, which are valuable additions to our large list of Agricultural works:—

I.**Chorlton's Complete Grape Grower's Guide.**

An illustrated Treatise on the Propagation and Cultivation of the Grape in the Vineyard, the Cold Grapery, the Forcing House and Retarding House; also on the Diseases of the Vine, their Prevention and Cure. Price 60 cts.

II.**The Cranberry and its Culture.**

By B. Eastwood, of Dennis, Mass. Containing full instructions for the preparation of the ground, planting and cultivating the vines, as practised by the most successful cultivators; with plates illustrating the different varieties. Price 75 cts.

III.**Gardening for the South.**

By W. N. White, of Athens, Georgia. A very complete and practical work, embracing the Vegetable Garden, the Fruit Garden, the Flower Garden, and the Pleasure Grounds. Intended especially for the Southern States. Price \$1.25.

IV.**The Strawberry Culture.**

By R. G. Pardee. A new edition, revised, with many important additions: containing also Directions for the Cultivation of the Raspberry, Blackberry, Currant, Gooseberry and Grape. Price 60 cts.

V.**Persoz's Culture of the Vine.**

A New Process for the Culture of the Vine, by Persoz, Professor to the Faculty of Sciences of Strasbourg; directing Professor of the School of Pharmacy of the same city. Translated by J. O. C. Barclay, Surgeon, U. S. N. Price 50 cts.

To be obtained of all Booksellers, or sent by us prepaid to any part of the Union, on receipt of price.

Mar. 1—mlt&mar. 6—w1t

Suffolk Pigs,

OF pure blood, for sale by B. V. FRENCH,
Feb 1—mly Braintree, Mass.

UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL Warehouse and Seed Store.

MAYHER & CO., Nos. 195 and 197 Water Street, New-York, where may be found the largest and most complete assortment of

Agricultural and Horticultural Implements, FIELD AND GARDEN SEEDS,

ever offered for sale in the United States.

Among our collection may be found the following, viz:—
Plows of every size and kind ever made, comprising some 150 different patterns; also, the genuine Eagle D and F Plows, which have taken the premium wherever tried and tested.

Harrows, Geddes, Triangular, Scotch and Square of all sizes.

Cultivators, with Cast, Wrought Iron and Steel Teeth, of different kinds.

Straw Cutters of various patterns, for cutting Hay, Straw, and Corn Stalks

Fan Mills, of twenty different styles and sizes, for cleaning all sorts of Grain; also, Coffee Hand Mills, for cleaning and sorting Coffee; a prime article for the West India market.

Horse Powers and Threshers, for one, two, four and eight horses; we have the Railway Power and Sweep Power, of different kinds, with Threshers, Separators, and Cleaners attached.

Mowing Machines; Ketchum's celebrated Mower, that will mow and spread in a perfect manner, twelve acres of grass per day. Reaping Machines; McCormick's, Hussey's and other makers.

Churns; fifty different styles, among which is the "THERMOMETIC CHURN," which is considered to be the best in use.

We have also Hall's celebrated eight horse power, and combined Thresher, Separator, and Cleaner, well suited to the California market. And in a word every article necessary for the Farm, Plantation, or Garden, may be found at the **UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE**, No. 197 WATER STREET, NEW-YORK.

N. B. An illustrated catalogue will be furnished by addressing the subscribers as above. March 1—mtf

CHOICE GARDEN,

FIELD AND FLOWER SEEDS, among which are Poland, Siberian, Friesland and Canada Branch oats—Mexican, Early June, Mercer, Carter, &c., Potatoes,—English Potato and Top Onions—20 varieties of Melons: White Imperial, Mountain Sweet, Orange, Long Island, Black Spanish, Early, &c. Watermelons—Skillman's, Pine Apple, Golden Nutmeg, Early Christiansa, Large Cantalupe, &c., Muskmelons—White Spine, Early Frame, Long Green, &c., Cucumbers—Early Walcheren and London Cauliflowers—Okra—25 varieties of Flower Seeds for One Dollar.

I. A. CLARK,
Jan. 31—wtlm2t Marion, Wayne Co., N. Y.

General Land Agency at the West.

THE undersigned will attend to the making of entries on choice locations of Government Lands—to the purchase and sale of Lands, Farms, and Town property, in this and adjoining States—houses and lots in the cities of Racine and Milwaukee, Wis. Also the buying and selling of Real Estate in Chicago.

CASH PAID FOR LAND WARRANTS.

Letters, enclosing stamps, addressed to **SOLOMON W. JEWETT**, or **JAMES J. JEWETT**, Racine, Wis., or to **S. W. JEWETT**, 98 Randolph street, Chicago, Ill., will receive prompt attention. Jan. 31—wtlm1t

GARRETT'S SEEDLING.

THE subscriber now for the first time offers for sale a few barrels of this new and superior Potato. It is a seedling of his own raising, is very productive, and not liable to rot. He presents it to the public with confidence that it will be found in all respects a valuable acquisition, and refers all interested in the subject to an editorial notice in the **COUNTRY GENTLEMAN** for Nov. 15, page 316.

Pricing, delivered in Albany at the Railroad or Steamboat Landing, \$9 per barrel. Address **S. C. GARRETT**, Nov. 22—w4tm3t* South Westerlo, Albany Co., N. Y.

SHEEP BOOK.

THE Breeds, Management, Structure and Diseases of the Sheep, with Illustrative Engravings and an Appendix. By Henry J. Canfield of Ohio—for sale at the office of this paper—price \$1.00.

JUST PUBLISHED,

THORBURN'S RETAIL CATALOGUE for 1856, of Vegetable, Herb, Grass, &c., Seeds, will be mailed to any address on application.

J. M. THORBURN & CO.,
Jan. 3—w2tmj&m—m3t 15 John Street, New-York.

FLOWER SEEDS.

THORBURN'S Descriptive Catalogue of Flower Seeds for 1856, embracing every desirable variety in cultivation, (1000 sorts,) with directions for their culture, will be sent to applicants enclosing a stamp.

Also, Wholesale Price List of the above by the quantity, for Dealers.

Also, Catalogue of Tree, Shrub, Hedge, and Evergreen Seeds.

J. M. THORBURN & CO.,
Feb. 1—m2t Seedsmen, Nurserymen, &c., 15 John Street, New-York.

FOR SALE,

A VERY VALUABLE FARM.—The subscriber having determined to retire from business, offers his Farm for sale, containing about nine hundred acres of land, lying in Fairfax county, Virginia, about ten miles from Alexandria, Georgetown and Washington, which afford the best markets in the United States for the ordinary products of the farm.

The buildings are all comfortable; and the most of them have been erected within a few years. The dwelling is of brick with a frame addition containing eleven (11) rooms—the other buildings consist of houses for laborers with their families—a large barn and stables—granary—carriage and wagon houses—large stone dairy—stone ice and meat houses—a large house for apples and cider making, with extensive cellars for storing cider, and vinegar—and other necessary out-houses.

There are about 1000 peach trees of choice varieties; and 1500 of more apple trees, all in fine bearing condition; from which the subscriber realized last season between four and five thousand dollars, which amount might easily have been increased to double by an efficient salesman.

Large crops of corn, wheat, oats, hay, &c. are annually produced, for which the soil and climate are admirably adapted. The meadows are very extensive; and have yielded, without failure, heavy crops of hay for 40 years, without ever having been manured. The soil is easily improved; and is more retentive of improvement than any land within an equal distance of Washington.

It lies between two Railroads, one and a half miles distant from each. These roads, which will soon be completed, run through a lime-stone region 25 to 30 miles distant, and will be able to furnish it in any required quantity. The proprietor, 12 years ago, applied to a field 30 bushels of lime to the acre, with remarkable effect in increasing the crops, which effect still continues.

A large part of this land is in wood—much of it being heavy primitive Oak-timber suitable for ship building.

It is abundantly supplied with the purest water. In point of healthfulness, it cannot be surpassed. The subscriber's family, never numbering less than 25 persons, have not cost for medical services more than an average of \$10 per annum, for the last twenty years.

The wood-land is so distributed that the estate can be divided into several parts.

There are Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian and Baptist churches in the neighborhood.

It is offered at thirty-five dollars per acre, which is not half its value—the orchards and meadows alone, being worth the amount demanded for the whole estate.

Its proximity to Washington, the permanent seat of the General Government, which is growing very rapidly in wealth and population, must, with its other advantages, increase its value annually.

Persons wishing to purchase will make application to

WM. Y. DULIN,
near Falls Church,
Fairfax county, Virginia.

March 1—mtf.

PERUVIAN GUANO.

PERUVIAN GUANO, No. 1, with Government weight and brand upon each bag.

PERUVIAN GUANO, No. 1, taken from the lower part of the cargo, a little damp, with above brand upon each bag.

As the latter article is sold by some retail dealers for the best quality, be particular to observe that the Damp Guano has the figure 2 under the weight mark. For sale by

ANTOINE LONGETT,
34 Cliff street, corner of Fulton,
New-York.

Oct. 11—mtf

APPLE SEEDS.

THE subscriber has about Twenty bushels Apple Seed for sale. Address N. H. NOYES, Feb. 21—w3tm1t* Otisco, Onondaga Co., N. Y.

STRAWBERRY POTATO.

A FEW barrels to spare—

Price— $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel,.....	\$ 1.25
1 "	2.25
1 "	4.00
1 barrel of $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	10.00

Delivered in Albany. Address G. W. DURANT, Rensselaerville, Albany Co., or E. P. DURANT, 119 Pier, Albany. Feb. 21—w1tm2t

Northern Muscadine Grape.

THE undersigned would inform the public, that after having had 25 years experience with more than 40 varieties of Grape, said to be adapted to this climate, they have never been able to find any that at all compare with the EARLY NORTHERN MUSCADINE, either in point of flavor for the table, or for producing the richest of Wine—said by some of the best French judges to be the best Wine Grape they have ever seen in North America—its early habit of ripening, being on an average for 14 years past, from three to four weeks earlier than the Isabella, and pronounced by thousands who have eaten the fruit in our gardens, quite superior to that famed grape. As far North as our Society is located, the Muscadine, for fourteen years past, in point of profit, has yielded us 15 dollars, where the Isabella or any other kind of grape has yielded us one.

As we are in the business of producing new varieties of Grape, we are not afraid to challenge any of the Northern States to produce its equal; for we have impartially tried all the new varieties, and have in reality found NOTHING that compares with it.

This is an entirely new variety known as the Northern Muscadine or Shaker Seedling. It was produced in the Society of Shakers at New-Lebanon, Columbia Co., and State of New-York, and has been and still is with them a Standard Grape, that does obeisance to no other grape yet known as a hardy grape in these Northern States. This remarkably fine and high-flavored Grape was produced from the seed of the Native White Grape, growing wild on the banks of Connecticut River. Having proved it for 15 years past, in almost every situation, we can, with the greatest confidence, recommend it to the public as the very best, in every point considered, of any grape yet known in this Northern latitude; for we have intended to thoroughly prove the whole list of hardy grapes that were noted for their goodness, and then recommend truthfully according to the result of our experience. And as the public are now being most shamefully imposed on, by unprincipled persons selling grape roots that are worthless and good for nothing, under this name, Muscadine, we would caution all to beware of whom they purchase roots bearing the above name, as we will hold ourselves responsible for the genuineness of none but such as are ordered to our personal address, or of such of our agents as can show proper reference that we have duly appointed them. We have now on hand a choice supply of Roots ready for this spring's setting.

Principal Agents, { D. J. HAWKINS,
 { R. F. CROSSMAN,
Skaker Village, New-Lebanon,
Columbia Co., N. Y.

March 1—w1tm1t.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,

WHOLESALE and retail—FIELD and GARDEN SEEDS, in small and large quantities—FRUIT and ORNAMENTAL TREES from the best nurseries in the country. Farmers and Merchants will find it to their advantage, to give us a call before purchasing, at the North River Agricultural Warehouse.

Feb. 14—w&mtf GRIFFING, BROTHER & CO.
60 Cortlandt-St., New-York.

NO. 1 PERUVIAN GUANO,

AT THE lowest market price.
Superphosphate of Lime,
Poudrette, manufactured by the Lodi Manufacturing Co.,
Plaster for Land purposes,
Charcoal Dust for Land purposes,
Bone Dust, Sawings, Turnings and Ground Bone,
Can now be obtained in large or small quantities at the

North River Agricultural Warehouse,
GRIFFING BROTHER & CO.
Feb. 14—w&mtf 60 Cortlandt-St., New-York.

Choice Field and Garden Seeds.

THE subscribers have on hand for sale, a choice and large stock of FIELD SEEDS and GRAINS, with a full stock of FRESH GARDEN SEEDS, which they offer at fair prices.

150 bushels of superior Millett.
500 bushels assorted Spring Wheat.
100 bushels assorted Field and Garden Peas.
500 bushels Timothy and Clover Seeds, Blue Grass, Red Top,

With a full and complete assortment of all Field and Garden Seeds, and IMPLEMENTS and MACHINES for the farm and plantation, wholesale and retail, at the Chicago Ag. Warehouse and Seed Store, 45 Franklin-st., Chicago, Ill. Feb. 7—w4tm1t HENRY D. EMERY & CO.

SYRACUSE NURSERIES.

DISSOLUTION.—The copartnership heretofore existing between Alanson Thorp, Wm. Brown Smith, John C. Hanchett, and Alfred Fahnestock, under the firm name of Thorp, Smith, Hanchett & Co., is hereby dissolved. Dated Syracuse, January 17th, 1856.

ALANSON THORP,
WM. BROWN SMITH,
JOHN C. HANCHETT,
A. FAHNESTOCK.

The business of the Syracuse Nurseries will be continued by the subscribers, under the firm of Thorp, Smith & Hanchett, to whom the property and effects of the late firm have been transferred, and who are duly authorized to settle all claims or demands in favor of, or against said firm.

ALANSON THORP,
W. BROWN SMITH,
J. C. HANCHETT.

Jan. 31, 1856—w4tm1t

Syracuse, N. Y.

ALBANY TILE WORKS,

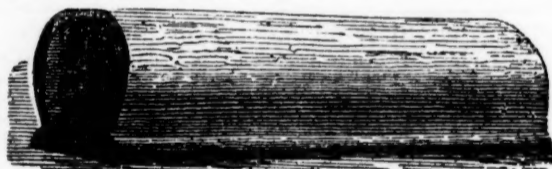
Corner of Patroon and Knox Streets, Albany, N. Y.

THE subscribers, being the most extensive manufacturers of Draining Tile in the United States, have on hand, in large or small quantities, for Land Draining, the following descriptions, warranted superior to any made in this country, hard burned, and over one foot in length. On orders for 10,000 or more, a small discount will be made.



HORSE SHOE TILE.

$4\frac{1}{2}$ inch calibre, \$18 per 1000; $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch calibre, \$15 per 1000; $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch calibre, \$12 per 1000.



SOLE TILE, OR PIPE.

3 inch calibre, \$18 per 1000.
2 inch calibre, 12 per 1000.
Also on hand 8 inch Horse Shoe Tile for large drains, \$9 per 100— $5\frac{1}{2}$ inch, \$40 per 1000. Sole Tile, 4 inch calibre, for sink drains, \$40 per 1000—6 inch calibre Octagon Pipe, \$20 per 100—Cornice Brick, of the pattern used in the City of Washington, also on hand.
Orders respectfully solicited. Cartage free.

C. & W. McCAMMON,
late BABCOCK & VAN VECHTEN,
Albany, N. Y.
Feb. 21—w&m3ms.

New Chinese or Japan Potato,

DIOSCOREA Batatas vel Japonica. Orders are received, and will be filled in rotation by the subscribers, for this new and valuable esculent. Price \$3 per dozen, or \$20 per 100 tubers. Printed description with direction for its culture will be furnished to purchasers.

J. M. THORBURN & Co.,
Seedsman, &c.,
Feb. 1—m2t 15 John Street, New-York.

CRANBERRY CULTURE.

THE subscriber has issued a circular in relation to CRANBERRY CULTURE, and will forward it to all applications without charge. Also will forward PLANTS, in a fresh state, by Adams & Co.'s Express, to any part of the United States, or by any other conveyance requested. Price \$7 per 1000. When clubs are formed for a considerable quantity, a liberal discount made. Should any of the plants die out with fair usage, other plants will be sent to fill all vacant places without charge. Address

SULLIVAN BATES,
Jan. 24—w&m3m Bellingham, Norfolk Co., Mass.

Hay Presses ! Hay Presses !

DERICK'S CELEBRATED PARALLEL LEVER HAY PRESSES, Patented May 16th and June 6th, 1854, which are now being shipped to all parts of the country, and are in every case giving the most decided satisfaction—made to bale from 100 to 500 lbs and sold for from \$100 to \$175. For Circulars with engravings and full explanatory description, apply personally or by mail to

DEERING & DICKSON,
Premium Agricultural Works, Albany, N. Y.
Dec. 27—w&mtf

To Farmers and Gardeners.

YOUR attention is called to the Manures manufactured by the Lodi Manufacturing Co. from the contents of the sinks and Privies of New-York City, and free from offensive odor, called

POUDRETTE AND TAFEU.

Poudrette is composed of two-thirds night soil and one-third decomposed vegetable fibre. Tafeu is composed of three-fourths night soil and one-fourth No. 1 Peruvian Guano.

These manures are cheaper and better adapted for raising Corn, Garden Vegetables and Grass, than any other in market. Can be put in contact with the seed without injury, and cause Corn and seeds to come up sooner, ripen two weeks earlier, and yield one-third more than other manures, and is a sure preventive of the Cut Worm.

Two bbls. Poudrette or 100 lbs. Tafeu, will manure an acre of Corn in the hill. Tafeu 1½ cents per lb. Poudrette \$2.00 per bbl., or \$1.50 for any quantity over 7 bbls., delivered on board vessel or Railroad, free from any charge for package or cartage. A pamphlet, containing every information, sent, postpaid, to any one sending their address to

THE LODI MANUFACTURING CO.,
Jan. 17—w&m4m 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

ICHABOE GUANO.

JUST RECEIVED by the brig Wave Spirit, direct from the Ichaboe Islands, a cargo of this superior Guano, (which is the first cargo arrived, since that brought by the ship Shakspeare in 1845.) This guano is now landed in excellent order, will be sold in lots to suit purchasers. Samples and analysis will be sent by addressing the Agent. As the quantity is small, early application will be necessary. Farmers who cannot remove what they desire, may have it remain on storage until April 1st, at 18½ cts. per ton per month which includes Insurance.

Price \$40 per ton of 2000 lbs.

A. LONGETT, Agent,
34 Cliff St., Corner of Fulton,
New-York.
Nov. 1—w&mtf.

Maclura or Osage Orange Hedges.

H. W. PITKIN,

Manchester, Conn., Dealer in Seeds and Plants

IN consequence of the increasing demand for this remarkable Hedge plant, my exclusive attention is now given to the business. Seed is yearly gathered by my own agents, and may be relied upon as fresh and genuine. As many persons prefer the plants ready for setting in hedges, I have established nurseries in different sections of the country, where they are raised on an extensive scale, and in the most economical manner, and am ready to contract them in any quantity. A descriptive pamphlet on the Culture of Osage Orange Hedges, given to purchasers.

G. G. SHEPPARD, New-York—P. B. MINGLE, Philadelphia
—BYRAM, PITKIN & Co., Louisville, Ky., wholesale Agents.
Apply as above. April 5—w&mly

Agricultural Books,

For sale at the office of the Country Gentleman.

Thorburn's Wholesale Catalogues

FOR 1856, of Vegetable, Flower, Tree and Agricultural Seeds, Spring Bulbs, &c., &c., for the use of Dealers, are now ready, and will be forwarded on application.

J. M. THORBURN & CO.,
Jan. 3—w1am3t—m2t 15 John St., New-York.

Tree, Shrub, Hedge, and Evergreen Seeds.

A COLLECTION of about 100 varieties.

Norway Spruce,	\$1.50 per lb.
Scotch Fir,	1.50 "
Evergreen Cypress,	1.50 "
Black Austrian Pine,	3.00 "
Weymouth Pine,	3.00 "
Chinese Arbor Vitæ,	3.00 "
Magnolia Macrophylla, Osage Orange, Cedar of Lebanon, &c. &c.	

J. M. THORBURN & CO.
Seedsman, &c.,
Feb. 1—m2t. 15 John Street, New-York.

FISH GUANO.

THE Narragansett Manufacturing Co. of Providence, R. I., are prepared to execute orders for their Fish Guano. They have prepared their guano after two methods; one by chemically treating, cooking and then drying and grinding the Fish to a powder. This is put in bags and sold at \$45 per ton. For the other variety the fish are prepared as above, (with the exception of drying and grinding;) and are then combined with an absorbent which is in itself a valuable fertilizer; and sold at \$2 per barrel, containing about 200 lbs. This compost is of great strength, and must be a very efficient fertilizer, as it is composed in great part of simple flesh and bones of fish.

Dr. Charles T. Jackson, of Boston, has made an analysis of the Powder, and says:

"It is similar to Peruvian Guano in composition, with the exception that the ammoniacal matter is dried flesh of fish, and not putrified, so as to be ammoniacal. It will, however, produce ammonia by decomposition in the soil. One hundred grains of this manure, dried and finely pulverized, was submitted to analysis, with the following result:

ANALYSIS.

Ammoniacal matter, (flesh of fish),	48-00
Phosphate of Lime,	33-00
Carbonate of Lime,	7-60
Sulphate of Lime,	6-40
Potash and Soda,	4-10

100-00

Respectfully your obedient Servant,

CHARLES T. JACKSON,
Assayer to the State of Massachusetts,
Boston, July 21st, 1855.

Dr. Jackson's opinion of our Guano is expressed in the following Note:

Boston, March 9th, 1855.

S. B. HALLIDAY, Esq.—Dear sir:—In reply to your letter, I would state my entire confidence in the superiority of a properly prepared artificial guano, made from fishes, over that of the natural guano of birds, obtained from the coast of Peru.

It is obvious that more of the nitrogenous, or ammonia producing substances, exist in fish prepared after your method, than are found in any guano, and hence the artificial preparation will go further in the fertilization of a soil.

The ammoniacal salts act chiefly in bringing the foliage into a healthy and luxuriant condition, and thus causes the plant to absorb more of the phosphate and other necessary salts and substances from the soil, and more carbonic acid from the air. The carbonate of ammonia also, is a solvent for humus, and it quickly saturates any injurious acid salts that may exist in the soil, and forms from some of them valuable fertilizers.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. T. JACKSON, M. D., State Assayer, &c.

This Manure is offered to agriculturists with the assurance of its becoming one of the most popular to be obtained. The Company are ready to establish agencies at such points as are desirable for the convenience of Farmers. As the supply for this season is rather limited, the Company esteem it a favor to have orders forwarded early to enable them to lay down at their agencies the requisite quantities in proper time for use,—orders may be addressed to the Company at Providence, or to R. H. PEASE, Albany, N. Y. or R. L. ALLEN, New-York.

S. B. HALLIDAY, Agt.
22 West Water St., Providence, R. I.

Jan. 24—w6t—m6m.

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GENEVA NURSERY.

THE subscribers offer for sale
 75,000 Mazzard Cherry seedlings,
 20,000 Horse Plum seedlings,
 75,000 one year grafted Apple trees,
 75,000 grafted roots,
 50,000 Osage Orange,
 50,000 Basket Willow cuttings,
 10,000 one year budded Cherry trees.
 Also scions of Apple, Pear and Cherry.
 Strawberry plants, 30 varieties.
 Fruit and Ornamental Trees for orchard, garden and ornamental planting.
 Persons in want of the above articles will do well to give us a call.
 W. T. & E. SMITH,
 March 1—w&mt* Geneva, N. Y.

P. D. GATES,

COMMISSION MERCHANT, and dealer in Agricultural Implements and Machinery, No. 12 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK.

Ketchum's Mowing Machines, Hay Presses, Horse Hoes, Cultivators, Plows, Straw Cutters, Corn Shellers, Reapers, Horse Powers and Threshers, Combined Thresher, and Winnowers, and other Agricultural Machines.
 May 24—m12t*

HIGHLAND NURSERIES,

NEWBURGH, N. Y.

A. SAUL & CO., in calling the attention of the public to their establishment, deem a lengthened notice unnecessary. They would merely state that the stock of their nurseries, which they offer for sale the coming spring, is full in every department, and is of the best quality; including all the recently introduced Pears and other fruits, both Dwarf and Standard; also all the varieties in the ornamental department, both deciduous and evergreen, including all the new and rare Conifers, Weeping Trees and Shrubs, as well as a full stock of all the leading articles to be had in the trade.

For particulars in detail, they refer to their general catalogue, a new edition of which is ready, and will be forwarded to all post-paid applications, enclosing a P. O. Stamp to prepay the same.

A large quantity of Osage Orange and Buckthorn plants, for hedge and screen purposes.

Dealers and planters of trees on a large scale, dealt with on the most liberal terms.

Newburgh, March 1, 1856—weow4tm2t

FRUIT TREES,

FOR ORCHARDS AND FRUIT GARDENS

CONSISTING of the best standard varieties, whose genuineness has been proved in all cases, are offered for sale by the subscriber. Careful selections will be made when desired, embracing a suitable proportion of the best sorts, so as to afford a regular succession of the finest fruit, at the following prices, viz:

Apples,.....	20 cents each.
Peach, 2 and 3 years,.....	20 " "
Cherry, " ".....	38 " "
Plum, " ".....	50 " "
Pears, Dwarf, 2 and 3 years,....	38 " "
" Standard, " ".....	50 " "

Extra large trees will be at higher prices.

Ornamental trees, evergreens, shrubs, roses, &c., of carefully selected and hardy sorts.

Trees securely packed for any distance.

J. J. THOMAS,

mar 1—w6tm2t

Macedon, Wayne Co., N. Y.

To Long-Island, Jersey and N. Y. Farmers.

THE subscribers, having the exclusive right to all the night-soil emptied from the sinks and privies of New-York City, for five years—and there being more than they wish to use themselves, they are prepared to furnish to Farmers at their landings up any river, creek, or bay, where vessels can come, the crude night-soil, just as received from the scavengers, and empty it into carts, or furnished tight tubs, in which it can be carried on to the land—for from 10 to 18 cts. per bushel, according to distance and circumstances, or persons sending their own vessels will be loaded at the company's wharves.

Now is the time to get a manure more powerful, more forcing, and cheaper than any in the known world. Cargoes will vary from 1000 to 8000 bushels, according to quantities desired. Apply to

THE LODI MANUFACTURING CO.,

Jan. 17—weow4tm4t

60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

RURAL PUBLICATIONS.

THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN—THE CULTIVATOR, AND THE ILLUSTRATED ANNUAL REGISTER OF RURAL AFFAIRS—Published at Albany, N. Y., by LUTHER TUCKER & SON.

THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN is a beautifully illustrated weekly of 16 pages quarto, with special Departments for The Farm, The Grazier, The Dairy, The Fruit Garden and Orchard, The Florist, The Kitchen Garden, The Poultry Yard, The Housewife, The Fireside, &c. "This is, without question, the BEST Agricultural Paper in the United States."—Hon. JOHN WENTWORTH, M. C. of Illinois. Price \$2 a year.

THE CULTIVATOR, monthly, 32 pages octavo—well-known for twenty years, as the best monthly agricultural journal in this country—price 50 cents per year.

THE ILLUSTRATED ANNUAL REGISTER OF RURAL AFFAIRS. The two Nos. issued for 1855 and 1856, contain more than 250 engravings of buildings, animals, trees, fruits, &c., &c. Price 25 cents each—sent post paid by mail.